

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MARCH 1986

Lebanon-Israel

Israeli warplanes attacked Fatah targets southeast of Sidon 27 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the raids were directed against a Fatah headquarters in the Al-Miyah wa Miyah refugee camp and against a nearby training base. An AFP report cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said 20 people were killed or injured in the raids.

Four Israelis were slightly injured the same morning when katyushas were fired across Israel's northern border at Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem radio disclosed, citing the IDF spokesman. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir stressed that Israel will take action to prevent such incidents from recurring, IDF radio noted.

Further Reaction to U.S.-Libyan Clash

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi received visiting Maltese Prime Minister Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici 26 March, Tripoli television reported, adding that their talks focused on Malta's initiative to convene the UN Security Council to examine the U.S. "aggression." Meanwhile, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio called for the entire Arab nation to be transformed into "suicide squads and human bombs" directed against U.S. "terrorist embassies and interests wherever they may be." The radio also broadcast a support message to Al-Qadhafi from the "interim command" of the Palestinian Liberation Front, which announced that it is waiting for "commands" from the Libyan leader. Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt told Al-Qadhafi in a cable reported by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that PSP forces are ready to join the suicide squads and participate in strikes on U.S. interests.

In other Arab reaction, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat confirmed the PLO's support for Libya "without hesitations or reservations," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted. A Kuwaiti official spokesman cited by KUNA condemned the U.S. attacks on Libyan positions. Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba expressed "deep concern" over the U.S.-Libyan clash, Tunis radio reported, and he called for a peaceful resolution of

the conflict. A Greek Government spokesman likewise expressed Greece's desire for a peaceful solution to the Gulf of Sidra dispute, according to Athens radio, adding that "the agreement on the U.S. bases in our country prohibits the use of these bases for military purposes in the dispute with Libya."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided an "extremely important" railway bridge northeast of Dezful 27 March, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. Iraqi warplanes also hit maritime targets in the Gulf 26 and 27 March, according to military statements carried by Voice of the Masses radio. As for claims of aircraft losses, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA asserted that an Iranian F-4 was downed over the southern front 27 March, while IRNA stated that an Iraqi jet was shot down by Iranian air defenses in the northern sector 26 March.

Israel-Egypt

Israel and Egypt held another round of Tabah talks in Herzliya 26 March, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the two delegations are making an "intensive effort" to resolve the remaining substantive issues. In an interview with IDF radio, Foreign Minister Shamir claimed that Israel has shown "great willingness to meet the Egyptian requests halfway" but that Egypt's "tough stand" has prevented progress at the talks.

Sudan-Ethiopia

Allegations that Ethiopian planes have flown into southern Sudan with munitions and supplies for Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces are unfounded, an SPLA spokesman announced in a statement reported by the clandestine SPLA radio. Meanwhile, SPLA leader Colonel John Garang reiterated his movement's rejection of Sudanese Government plans to begin holding elections in parts of southern Sudan in April, according to an *AL-SAHFAH* report cited by SUNA. Garang said the SPLA will fight against any government resulting from such "partial" elections.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] was in the name of the PLO, and the Palestinian brothers were free to choose their representatives to the congress.

Kizichenko added: Faruq Qaddumi led a delegation to my country and delivered a speech in the name of the PLO. This means that there has been no change in our stand toward the PLO. Only the Palestinians can choose their leaders. The Soviet ambassador also underlined the PLO's independence. He emphasized that what is now taking place in the Middle East is the direct result of Israel's intransigence and aggression. He added: We must all help the Palestinians, for they cannot confront Israel's obstinacy alone, particularly in light of the fact that they have been weakened by internal and Arab differences which have created despair within their ranks.

Referring to the Fes peace plan, the Soviet ambassador noted its pragmatic character and the support which the Soviet Union, the socialist countries, and Western Europe have given to it. However, he also said that the Arab countries have done nothing since then to advance this plan.

The Soviet ambassador continued: We are convinced that political means are the only way to find a solution to this problem. However, this does not automatically mean that the Palestinians must lay down their weapons. They should use every means available within the context of reaching this political solution. We must all work toward such a goal through collective efforts.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war and the Soviet Union's efforts to stop it, the Soviet ambassador said: Our resources are limited. Iran's stand on ending this war is intransigent. We are taking every opportunity and occasion to bring a halt to the fighting.

Referring to Afghanistan, he stated: We are ready to withdraw from Afghanistan on the condition that all others refrain from interfering. Anyhow, we are optimistic. Although they need time, negotiations are underway, he added.

OAU Secretary General Arrives in Tunisia

*LD232054 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
23 Mar 86*

[Text] Mr Ide Oumarou, secretary general of the OAU, arrived in Tunis today. He is expected to hold talks with Mr Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, on strengthening Arab-African cooperation.

Mr Ide Oumarou mentioned on his arrival that the existence of a cooperation agreement, which was signed in Damascus by the OAU and the Arab League, aims at strengthening and reinforcing cooperation between Africa and the Arab world.

He added that the Tunis meeting between the secretaries general of the two organizations comes within this framework, and will enable them to look into the necessary measures to implement the decisions made during the Damascus meeting and especially those related to the holding of an Arab-African ministerial meeting before the end of this year which will be (?followed) by an Arab-African summit conference.

Mr Ide Oumarou pointed out that these two meetings will enable the African Continent and the Arab world to crystallize a unified strategy in order to face the difficult world situation, which is characterized particularly by the critical economic situation, and the troubled situation in the Middle East region and in South Africa.

The OAU secretary general expressed the hope that such meetings will contribute to the fulfillment of the wishes and aspirations of the fraternal Arab and African peoples, which rely a lot on the strengthening of Arab-African cooperation.

PLO Condemns U.S. Actions Against Libya

*JN261934 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] An official PLO spokesman has stated the following:

The United States launched an aggression against Libya yesterday, when its planes and missiles belonging to the aircraft carriers of the U.S. 6th Fleet stationed near the Libyan coast bombed some installations in the Libyan Surt area and some Libyan naval units in the territorial waters within the context of an open, aggressive operation, which was for a long time prepared in public and through the provocative war maneuvers by the U.S. 6th Fleet there.

The PLO condemns this flagrant U.S. aggression and considers it a continuation of the aggressive U.S. policy against the Arab people, particularly the Palestinian people. In addition, it is considered a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms, an embodiment of the aggressive U.S.-Israeli alliance against the entire Arab nation, and an application of the policy of domination and hegemony that the United States is trying to impose on the region's people in an attempt to subdue them and peddle its aggressive schemes. While announcing its full solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people, the PLO calls on all the nationalist Arabs to strongly confront this imperialist onslaught and support their brothers in Libya.

Unhesitating Support From 'Arafat

*JN261942 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said in Cairo yesterday that he supports Libya without hesitation or reservations in confronting the insolent aggression by the United States. Abu 'Ammar, who has been paying a working visit to Egypt since last Saturday, told AFP: Regarding the insolent, treacherous U.S. aggression against Libya, we support Libya without hesitation or reservations and with all our capacity. This is something over which we will not hesitate a single second.

Ground Defenses Confront Israeli Planes in Lebanon

Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command announced a short while ago that at 1120 this morning the Zionist enemy carried out treacherous air raids with U.S.-made F-16's against the outskirts of Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp and the (Sirub) area in suburbs of Sidon. These raids were aimed at innocent civilians and continued until 1140.

The Palestinian ground defense confronted the raiding planes and prevented them from achieving their aims. The Palestinian spokesman said that 10 people were killed and 12 injured, most of whom are civilians.

Husayn Reportedly To Close PLO Offices, Deport Staff

*NC270932 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Kuwait's *AL-ANBA* has reported King Husayn of Jordan has decided to close the PLO offices there by the end of March. He will deport 100 civilians and military personnel who work in these offices.

Second 'Arafat, Mubarak Meeting Reported

*JN261950 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Egyptian president Husni Mubarak in Cairo this morning for the second time. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the Arab situation, events on various levels, and bilateral relations and ways to bolster them in favor of the goals of our people and our Arab nation.

'Sources' Say Foreign Ministers Preparing Summit

*LD271139 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Tunis: Arab diplomatic sources in Tunis have stated that Arab foreign ministers have agreed to undertake urgent measures to hold the postponed Arab summit conference.

The sources add that the Arab League Council, scheduled to end its current session in Tunis today, has agreed to ask Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi to resume preparations for holding the summit conference. The sources add that no provisional date has been fixed for holding the conference.

Soviet Ambassador to Tunisia Comments on PLO

NC211306 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, 21 Mar (MENA) — Vselovod Kizichenko, the Soviet Ambassador to Tunisia, has denied that his country has placed conditions on receiving 'Arafat in Moscow. He said: The most we hope for is to find a common ground in the Palestinian arena. The Palestinian revolution groups in Aden and Algiers had at one time agreed upon such a foundation.

In an interview published by the Tunisian *AL-AMAL* newspaper today, the Soviet ambassador stated that his country considers the Aden and Algiers agreement to be the most suitable basis for understanding among Palestinians.

Yasir 'Arafat is the legally elected PLO Executive Committee chairman, he added. It is in this capacity that he represents the PLO. We know that there has been a great deal of talk about this. Some people say that we did not invite Yasir 'Arafat to attend the 27th CPSU Congress. I like to respond to this by stating that I myself gave 'Arafat an invitation. Like all other invitations, it was not a personal one. The invitation given to Abu

GCC Reportedly To Purchase AWACS-Type Aircraft *LD270947 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1041 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[By Jasim Matar]

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 26 Mar (KUNA) — High-level Gulf military sources stated here today that the GCC member-countries are seriously considering purchasing some airborne early-warning aircraft to cover these countries.

The sources explained to KUNA that the six GCC member-countries are currently studying a number of offers concerning advanced early-warning aircraft similar to AWACS, as being used by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. These aircraft will carry out surveillance operations in the airspaces of all GCC member-countries, and will also contribute to exploring territorial waters and their depths.

The sources pointed out that each GCC member-country will own a number of these aircraft. They added that in this respect there will be coordination between these countries.

The sources disclosed that as soon as these aircraft are put in service, military coordination will be established covering information reaching each GCC member-country. Use of this form of aircraft will guarantee complete cover for all parts of these countries.

BAHRAIN

Amir Interviewed on Gulf War, Arab Summit *GF261309 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Excerpts] London, 26 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has described the GCC as an embodiment of the reality being lived in the region and an expression of the ambitions and hopes of its sons. His highness affirmed everyone's desire to bolster the progress of cooperation and to turn it into practical steps which are evident now on the arena of joint work.

In an interview with the magazine *AL-MAJALLAH*, published today in London, his highness expressed hope that the efforts of all parties would be joined together to prevent the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, which threatens the region's security, peace, and stability. He stated that Bahrain has urged a halt to this destructive war between the two Muslim neighbors, continues, alongside its sister countries in the GCC, to support all of the efforts designed to realize this goal, and supports every initiative in this regard to end the bloodshed and to spare the wasted capabilities and energies, and to utilize them for the purpose of construction and development.

His highness affirmed that Bahrain supports holding an Arab summit conference, after sufficient preparation, to guarantee the achievement of practical results which would serve the march of joint Arab action in a serious and sincere manner and so that the divisions and disputes which plague the Arab ranks will be overcome.

On the economic difficulties of the region, his highness stated that Bahrain continually works to diversify its sources of revenue, in addition to extending support for production in all fields and arranging priorities according to urgent local requirements. He pointed out that, together with its brothers in the GCC, Bahrain seeks to draw up a joint policy to face the economic changes imposed by the fluctuation of international oil prices, which are subject to frequent changes.

KUWAIT

Government Condemns U.S. Bombing of Libyan Positions *LD261321 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1255 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Mar (KUNA) — Kuwait today condemned the shelling of some Libyan positions by the U.S. air forces, "proceeding from Kuwait's principled and declared stance concerning Arab solidarity."

In a statement to KUNA a government spokesman expressed Kuwait's hope that "the incidents will not develop in a way which will require any military or political escalation."

The spokesman affirmed what came in yesterday's Arab League resolution, that "this resolution expresses the unanimous Arab stand on this problem."

PDRY

Al-Bayd, Al-Qadhdhafi Discuss U.S. 'Aggression' *GF262130 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] A telephone conversation took place today between Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah.

During the conversation the brother secretary general expressed the denunciation of the PDRY's party, people, and government of the perfidious U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyyah and stressed the PDRY's solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriyyah. He pointed out that the YSP and PDRY people are ready to stand by the Libyan people in confronting the aggressive challenges caused by U.S. imperialism designed to harm the gains of the 1 September Revolution. This falls within the framework of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Arab national liberation movement with all of its progressive and national factions.

The brother secretary general termed the perfidious aggression to which Libya has been subjected by the aggressive U.S. forces as constituting an aggression on the PDRY. He lauded the steadfastness of the Libyan people in the face of this aggression.

On the other hand, Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi expressed his appreciation for the solidarity of the PDRY and the YSP with the Libyan people in this ordeal. Brother Mu'am-

mar al-Qadhdhafi explained the situation resulting from the U.S. aggression and the preparations of the Libyan people to defend their national sovereignty and their audacious revolution.

Official Phones Support to Jallud

*GF261726 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee, expressed the PDRY's denunciation of the tyrannical U.S. aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. He also affirmed our country's principled and firm stance and solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people in their firm confrontation of this aggression.

This was affirmed during his telephone conversation today with Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the historic leadership of the 1 September Revolution and Libyan prime minister, who affirmed the Libyan people's readiness to repulse any U.S. attempt to attack the Jamahiriya and their readiness to protect the sovereignty of Libyan and Arab territory.

Political Bureau Supports Libya

*GF261955 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] The YSP Political Bureau has strongly denounced the U.S. aggression and plots against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

It affirmed the support of the PDRY people, party, and government for the Libyan people in their steadfastness in confronting the U.S. aggression designed to foil Libya's sovereignty and national independence, to curb the changes currently occurring inside it, and to undermine its liberation policy against imperialism, Zionism, and racism.

This came during an extraordinary meeting of the YSP Political Bureau held this afternoon. During the meeting the YSP Political Bureau discussed the military events in the Gulf of Sidra against Libya which has resulted in the U.S. armed aggression against Libya and its national sovereignty.

The YSP Political Bureau appeals to the masses to elevate the condition of total awareness and readiness to confront the escalation of U.S. intervention against our Arab countries. It also calls on the Arab systems and the national progressive parties and powers to seriously confront and defeat this aggression and to direct and mobilize the Arab masses to defend the sovereignty of the Arab territories and to consolidate Arab solidarity against imperialism.

The YSP Political Bureau adopted quick and necessary measures to support the brothers in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and their revolutionary leadership, led by Colonel Mu'amar al-Qadhdhafi, stemming from the unified fate and the goals which link both the Yemeni and Libyan revolutions.

USSR Envoy Protests 'Wrong Texting' of Communiqué

*GF261303 Kuwait AL-RAY AL-'AMM in Arabic
25 Mar 86 p 19*

[Text] Aden — The USSR ambassador in Aden has submitted a memorandum of protest to the Yemeni authorities for omitting sentences in the press communiqué issued in Moscow by representatives from Aden and the Soviet leadership concerning the part dealing with the national reconciliation. The USSR ambassador in Aden stated that he informed the secretary of foreign affairs of the YSP Central Committee that a correction and an apology must be made and that the press communiqué must be published in its entirety in both Arabic and Russian.

QATAR

Papers Denounce U.S. 'Aggression' Against Libya

GF261234 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 26 Mar (WAKH) — Qatari papers today denounce and condemn the U.S. aggression against Libya, describing it as a violation of international conventions and law, and an aggression against a country which is a member of the United Nations and possesses all of the rights of sovereignty over its territory and territorial waters.

The papers emphasize the need to adopt an Arab stand to confront such an act, in view of the fact that Libya is an Arab country and a member of the Arab League and any aggression against it is an aggression against the entire nation.

The English-language *GULF TIMES* condemns the method used by the United States against Libya. It affirms this Arab country's right to confront the U.S. fleet or any other fleet that violates its territorial waters and rights.

The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* says that it has been evident ever since U.S. warships deployed off the Libyan shores that the military machine of this superpower is looking for a justification to direct a strong attack, which would achieve what the United States has failed to achieve by political and diplomatic means.

The newspaper *AL-KHALIJ AL-YAWM* urges the international community to do its duty to defend the principles and rights of the peoples. The paper states that what the United States is practicing against Libya contradicts the principles of justice and the world's security and peace.

Foreign Minister Returns From Tunisia

GF261956 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1835 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Doha, 26 Mar (WAKH) — Qatari Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Sayf Al Thani returned to Doha today from Tunis after attending the 85th session of the Arab League Council.

UAE

Government Condemns U.S. 'Violation' Against Libya
GF270552 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Mar (WAKH)— The UAE has expressed great anxiety over the serious military escalation in the Gulf of Sidra which has resulted from the U.S. aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

An official source has stated that the UAE, while condemning this aggression as a flagrant violation of the sovereignty, independence, and integrity of Libyan territory, emphasizes its solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriya and expresses hope that this escalation which threatens the security and peace of all the Arab countries, threatens security in the Mediterranean, and poses a danger to international security and peace, will end.

AL-KHALIJ: Confrontation With Libya Defeats U.S.
GF270656 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (WAM)— The Al-Sharqiah-based newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* asserts that the United States was defeated by the first missile it fired at Libya "since the moment when the first missile was fired marked the diminishment of the size of the United States to a size equal to that of Libya."

The newspaper says that the U.S. aggression has revealed the erroneousness of the calculations which used to claim that U.S. power is invincible and cannot be repelled. The paper adds that the aggression on Libya "has proved that there are limits to any power, however great. It has also proved that willpower in the first place and awareness of the equations of international relations and their balancing in the second place are capable of limiting U.S. power and the power of other parties."

The paper asserts that the real confrontation which took place between a small country and a great power was a historic opportunity to prove the inability of the superior military capabilities of the United States to face any people if they are armed with the will to fight, and with an understanding of political equations and international interests, in which case such people can reveal the limits of U.S. power."

The paper refers to the role which the Lebanese people and their Palestinian and Syrian allies played against the U.S. forces in 1983. The paper asks: "Did they not compel Washington to withdraw its marines?"

The paper wonders: "When will the Lebanese and Libyan experiences become a method in Arab policy? When will the Arabs specifically agree that the path to the solution of their problems is to expose the limits of U.S. power by confronting the United States?"

Ghali Views Mubarak-'Arafat Talks, Tabah Issue*NC261333 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic**1230 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has emphasized that Egypt will continue its efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, taking into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

In an exclusive statement to our radio correspondent, Dr Ghali added that since the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was signed on 26 March 1979, several obstacles have surfaced. Despite these obstacles, Egypt is determined to continue its efforts to achieve lasting and comprehensive peace.

Dr Ghali pointed out that the purpose of President Mubarak's talks with Yasir 'Arafat is to bring the Palestinian and the Jordanian standpoints closer. He expressed hope that today's negotiations in Herzliyya will lead to an agreement resolving the Tabah issue through international arbitration. He added that such a solution would remove one of the obstacles that hinder the efforts for peace.

Ghali on Entebbe Summit, Nile-Basin Relations*NC261545 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, March 26 (MENA) — Egypt welcomed today the resolutions of the Entebbe summit that ended in Uganda on Monday. The Entebbe resolutions stressed the importance of sticking to the principle of peaceful coexistence and non-interference into home affairs of others in implementation of the regional African security.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali said today that Egypt has followed up sittings of the conference that comprised presidents of Uganda, Kenya, Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and the Sudan. Dr. Ghali noted that the meeting is a positive step towards consolidating relations between the Nile Basin countries.

Ghali Discusses 1979 Treaty With Israel*NC270749 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has denied that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty limits Egypt's policy and freedom to seek a framework to negotiate settlement of the Palestinian issue. He said that peace is the basic commitment in the treaty.

In a statement to the *AL-AKHBAR* newspaper, published on the 7th anniversary of the treaty, Ghali noted that when Egypt wants to criticize Israel's policies and actions, it does so with in full voice. When Israel invaded Lebanon, Egypt recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv. Ghali added that when Israel does something that deserves to be condemned, we condemn it in Cairo, at the United Nations, and in all international forums.

Dr Ghali stated that the peace process has neither prevented Egypt from supporting the PLO nor from submitting to the UN Security Council an Egyptian-French draft resolution containing the elements and principles of a settlement. Furthermore, this process would not have prevented Egypt from welcoming and calling for an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

Dr Ghali explained that Egypt has never claimed that the peace treaty with Israel is the best framework or the only way to achieve peace, adding that Egypt welcomes any other type for a settlement that would enable the Palestinian people to exercise their full rights.

Regarding the Tabah problem, Ghali said that negotiations on this are continuing and that the dispute over this strip of land, which is not more than one feddan [4,200 square meters], will be settled through arbitration.

6th Round of Tabah Talks Resumes in Tel Aviv*NC261628 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic**1600 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The sixth round of Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah began in Herzliyya today. The members of the Egyptian delegation, led by Nabil al-'Arabi, legal adviser at the Foreign Ministry, arrived in Tel Aviv last night. The negotiations deal with the formulation of a document on a solution to the Tabah problem through international arbitration.

Second Session Concludes*NC262118 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic**2100 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The second session of talks between Egypt and Israel on the terms of arbitration for the Tabah issue concluded at Herzliyya, Tel Aviv, this evening. The talks are scheduled to resume tomorrow morning.

'Aziz Addresses Arab League Political Committee

JN261642 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, has said that Iraq considers safeguarding Arab territory a principle that is not subject to any marginal considerations or individual judgments. In a speech at the conclusion of the political committee's deliberations on the Iraq-Iran war and the U.S.-Libyan situation last night, Tariq 'Aziz said Iraq's stand stems from its adherence to the provisions of the Joint Arab Defense Pact.

The political committee adopted two resolutions stressing the Arab League member-states' solidarity with Iraq and Libya in defending their territorial integrity, independence, and security despite the Syrian and Libyan representatives' reservations about the resolution condemning the Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory and Iranian threats to the Arab Gulf states.

Khayrallah on Situation in Al-Faw, Iranian Losses

JN262056 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, has affirmed that the Iranian forces have so far sustained more losses in the Al-Faw battle than in any previous battle. In a press conference today attended by Arab and international news agency, newspaper, and radio correspondents, Khayrallah said that the Iranian enemy had from the outset failed to achieve the objectives of its offensive on the Iraqi border in the III and VII Army Corps sectors. He said that the ruling regime in Tehran has placed itself at an impasse before the Iranian people and the world. He added that through their failed offensive, the aggressors had attempted to isolate the III Army Corps in east Al-Basrah from the VII Army Corps, which is defending the Shatt al-'Arab, saying that they wanted Umm al-Rasas Island to be a foothold for their forces to implement their second plan, which is gaining a foothold on land and isolating the two army corps.

The defense minister added that Iraqi forces are ceaselessly working for the liberation of the Al-Faw area with the fewest sacrifices and by inflicting the heaviest losses on the attacking Iranian forces. He said that decisive and certain victory will be theirs. He explained that the battles in the Al-Faw area are being waged on marshlands whose soil is composed of river sediment. Subterranean water is plentiful in this area, which greatly limits the deployment of heavy weapons.

Comments on Libya, Size of Forces

JN262030 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1755 GMT
26 Mar 86

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Baghdad]

[Text] Iraq is against the attack on Libya; there are regular Arab forces in Iraq, but on the second line; we will fight alongside Kuwait if it is attacked by Iran; the Al-Faw battle took a long

time and may take more time; Britain advised Tehran to commit aggression against the Al-Faw peninsula — these are some of the headlines of the press conference which Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces, held in Basra late this afternoon.

Regarding Iraq's position on the U.S. aggression against Libya, especially since Libya supports Iran, Khayrallah said: We are nationalists and consider Arab territory and the Arab people to be one people. We are an Arab League member-state and consider any aggression against any Arab country an aggression against us. We therefore place our capabilities in the service of defending the country. We are against the aggression although we admit that leader al-Qadhafi is responsible for the provocative practices. In any case, there is an attempt to turn leader Al-Qadhafi into a pan-Arab hero. He is not so and his stand on our people in Iraq is known.

Asked about the presence of regular Arab forces in Iraq, he said: Yes, they are present, but in very small numbers and on the second line. I asked him about Iraq's stand if Kuwait's Bubiyan Island is exposed to an Iranian military action. He replied: If Kuwait or Bubiyan are exposed to an Iranian invasion, we will stand on the side of our brothers even if they do not ask us to do so. Our security and theirs is one and cannot be separated. The danger of Iranian occupation of Bubiyan is possible and is obvious in Iranian officials' statements. Our concern over our brothers in Kuwait is legitimate. If they need our help we will not hesitate in giving it and we have the ability to do so.

Asked why the battle has continued for such a long time, he said: The battle has been longer than all previous battles, and I expect it to continue longer compared with previous battles. I cannot set a date, but I am committed to expelling them from our territory with the smallest possible losses on our side and with the largest possible losses on their side. We will not stop, and technically the battle requires time. Bombardment does not settle the battle, but is responsible for removing their divisions from the battlefield. We are using our weapons and men correctly at the correct time and place. I am not worried about the results or the progress of the battle. We take the worst possibilities into account; we do not dismiss any eventuality. In all cases, they failed to dislodge our forces or preoccupy the General Command. All their losses were to no avail.

Regarding the size of the Iranian forces in the Al-Faw peninsula, he said: They have four to five guards divisions, in addition to one regular brigade from the 21st Division, in the Al-Faw peninsula, which is 12 km long and 8 km wide. Supporting them requires simple tools. Providing them with ammunition for light and medium weapons is not a complicated matter. The terrain is difficult because of the sea's contact with the land and the accumulation of silt. The soil is soft. The strategic targets are here and the Kuwaiti border is here too.

Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah implicitly accused Britain of advising Iran to commit aggression in this area. He said: The advice given dates back to the experience of 1917 [the Balfour Declaration]. He smiled and added: Abu Naji was not far away. Abu Naji is the Iraqi's name for Britain.

Iraq's relations with Moscow are excellent and arms relations between them are also good. Our relations with Washington were restored after a long break. The U.S. Administration is good. It is for an end to the war. Syria and Libya have a public alliance with Iran, and they have a common goal against Iraq. They give advice and expertise to Iran and constitute a third party in Iran's armament deals with some international parties.

This is a summary of the most important points which the Iraqi defense minister made here late this afternoon.

Assembly Deputy Speaker Meets Kuwaiti Delegation

JN261426 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] National Assembly Deputy Speaker Bah'a al-Din Ahmad received the Kuwaiti National Assembly delegation currently visiting the country this morning. The fraternal delegation hailed the valiant Iraqi Army's heroic epics against the aggression of the despotic clique in Iran. They expressed their strong condemnation of the treasonous practices of the Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi regimes represented by their support for the Khomeyni aggression against the Arab nation.

The Kuwaiti National Assembly delegation reiterated the stand of the Arab masses in Kuwait alongside Iraq's heroes in their heroic defense under President Saddam Husayn against the Khomeyni aggression on Arab territory.

Baha' al-Din Ahmad hailed fraternal Kuwait's genuine pan-Arab stand, which embodies the unity of Arab destiny.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

'Large Maritime Target' Hit 26 Mar
JN261858 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1846 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Continuing to reinforce the siege around the sources which the criminal Iranian regime exploits in fueling the aggression, our giant Air Force planes carried out a successful raid at 1800 [1500 GMT] today against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring a direct, effective hit. Our brave eagles returned with their planes to the homeland safely and triumphantly with God's protection.

[Dated] 26 March 1986

'Large Maritime Target' Hit 27 Mar
JN270947 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0932 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our powerful Air Force planes launched a successful raid against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0910 [0610 GMT] today. Our planes scored an accurate, effective hit and returned safely to base, God be praised.

[Dated] 27 March 1986

Iran Bridge Near Dezful Destroyed

JN270945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0922 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi bombers today raided an extremely important railway bridge northeast of Dezful, completely destroying it and turning it into burning junk. In a statement to INA today, a military spokesman said that the (Talat Zang) bridge is used by the Iranian forces as an important crossing for transferring supplies, troops, weapons, and equipment. He said that the bridge connects Dezful with Qom and Tehran and is one of the most important crossing points between south and north Iran and is heavily used for purposes of aggression.

The spokesman noted that all the planes returned safely to base after carrying out the raid.

Iranian F-4 Shot Down

JN271017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1003 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi air defenses shot down an Iranian F-4 plane on the VII Army Corps front today. A military source told INA that two Iranian planes attempted to penetrate the Iraqi international border in the VII Army Corps sector but our air defense means intercepted them and shot down one plane whose pilot was seen bailing out in front of an Iraqi forward unit.

Ganaveh Oil Terminal Raided

JN271208 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1202 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes launched a destructive raid against the Iranian Ganaveh oil terminal this afternoon. A military spokesman told INA that the Iraqi planes hit their targets and set them alight at 1215 [0915 GMT] today before returning safely to base. The spokesman said that the Iraqi planes will continue their strikes against the Iranian regime to prevent it from utilising its resources for evil, aggressive purposes.

Iran Oil Pipeline Complex Raided

GF271204 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1145 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The blows of our valiant air force fall repeatedly on the heads of the rascally

aggressors to prevent them from exploiting their resources for their evil and hostile purposes.

At 1215 [0915 GMT] today, the courageous eagles launched a destructive raid on an oil pipeline diversion junction complex in (Jamara). They hit their targets and set them on fire. They then returned with their planes safely and victoriously to the homeland. God be praised in victory at all times.

[Dated] 27 March 1986.

Three Iranian Camps Raided

JN271521 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1512 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out fierce raids on three Iranian military camps this afternoon after which they safely returned to base. A military spokesman told INA that the Iraqi fighter planes carried out a fierce raid against Robat camp at 1242 today [0942 GMT], inflicting heavy losses in weapons, equipment, and personnel on the enemy. The spokesman added that Iraqi planes also raided the Moshk camp at 1435 [1135 GMT] today, inflicting further heavy losses in weapons, personnel, and ammunition depots on the Iranian forces.

The spokesman explained that other Iraqi fighter planes carried out a third raid on Galdian camp at 1630 [1330 GMT], inflicting heavy losses in personnel, weapons, and military hardware on the Iranian forces.

Communique No 2,163

JN261729 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,163 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As an expression of the great Iraqi people's will, our valiant Armed Forces will continue their heroic fighting until they attain their great objective of purging the land and destroying the aggressors.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our triumphant forces in the valiant Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to direct concentrated fire at the aggressor forces. Supported by the continuous, strong fire of our Air Force, artillery, and Navy both day and night, our forces inflicted heavy losses on the aggressors' personnel, equipment, weapons, and hardware.
2. Today our brave eagles continued their bold attacks on the concentrations of the rogues, destroying their vehicles, equipment, and weapons. They achieved the following: a) They carried out 76 combat missions; b) a devastating raid on the Musak camp; c) squadrons of our planes delivered concentrated strikes against a number of enemy vehicles, caravans, hideouts, and ammunition dumps in an area opposite Panjwin, destroying 30 vehicles, 35 caravans, 11 hideouts — 6 of which were very large and used for vehicles and hardware — and several personnel positions, in addition to several ammunition dumps. The brave eagles returned safely in God's care and protection after carrying out all their missions.
3. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector engaged enemy units, vehicles, and engineering works with all types of weapons, destroying two armored personnel carriers, two vehicles, and one excavator. They also damaged another excavator and burned two ammunition dumps. They also seized the following articles: a) two RPK machineguns; b) one radio; c) one RPG-7 launcher; d) large stockpiles of serviceable hardware.
4. The criminal enemy forces shelled the suburbs of Khanaqin, Biyarah, Tawilah, and Khormal with long-range artillery, damaging two houses in Tawilah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 March 1986

Israeli Warplanes Hit Palestinian Camps Near Sidon**Israelis Launch Strike**

NC270936 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English
0933 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Ladies, gentlemen: Since 1015 this morning, Israeli warplanes have been bombarding the Palestinian camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah in the south. There is as yet no Israeli confirmation of this raid.

Second Wave Hits Camps

NC271001 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0946 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out air strikes at 1120 today against the Palestinian camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah, as well as (Tallat Sirub) in the periphery of Sidon. Preliminary reports speak of casualties.

20 Casualties Reported

NC271015 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English
1008 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The French press agency has quoted its correspondent in south Lebanon that the first result of the three Israeli raids against the Palestinian camp of Al-Miyah wa Miyah and its periphery, particularly the (Sirubiyah hill) was 20 casualties between dead and wounded.

The casualties have been rushed to the Hammud Hospital in the nearby city of Sidon. The agency said this is the second such raid since the beginning of the year.

Artillery Bombs Villages

NC271029 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli enemy escalated its aggressive operations against the south today, shelling the 'Ayn al-Hulwah area for a second time at 1130. A squadron of enemy warplanes had raided this same area at 1115. Al-Miyah wa Miyah, Al-Mayrub, and 'Ayn al-Hulwah were among the areas bombarded. The warplanes had flown at a low altitude for some time before striking. Smoke was seen billowing from the bombarded areas, and casualties were reported. Ambulances also have been seen in the area.

In another development, artillery belonging to the enemy and its agents shelled the townships of Qilya and 'Ayn al-Tinah, as well as areas in southwest Al-Biq'a, wounding some citizens. The shelling reached as far as Lebanese Army positions near the Al-Layah checkpoint. The Lebanese Army returned fire and shelled an enemy agent position near Lusi farm from its location near Al-Qir'awn lake, scoring direct hits.

Fatah Radio Station, Camps Hit

NC271039 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1017 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Israeli warplanes carried out two raids against Fatah positions in the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp and (Tallat Sirub) this morning, as well as striking at the areas between them. The Israeli warplanes used missiles in their attacks. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from these positions. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the Israeli warplanes raided a Fatah radio station building located on the (Tallat Sirub) road, the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp, and a Fatah training camp in the area. Israeli warplanes currently are carrying out overflights of the area.

10 Killed in Air Strikes

NC271136 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1120 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Israeli warplanes carried out two raids against Palestinian positions this morning. A third raid was undertaken against positions held by the Nasirite Popular Army and Islamic groups in areas around Sidon. According to the latest reports from Sidon, the number of people killed has risen to 10.

Israeli Troops Land

NC271230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] According to reports from the south, the Israeli occupation forces have landed troops in the townships of Shaqra and Hulah after four helicopters combed the area. The enemy then massed troops between Hulah checkpoint and Dibbi fortress. Ten Merkava tanks were brought to the area in addition to the helicopters.

The Israeli occupation forces and their militias in Jabal Safi shelled the villages of Jarju', Jba', and 'Arab Salim last night causing material damage. The enemy later shelled Kafr Milki village, wounding citizen Muhammad Ballut.

'Resistance' Carries Out Operations in South

NC261822 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] A National Resistance group clashed this morning with a patrol from agent Lahd's militia on the Marwahin Road, in the western sector. Rockets and automatic weapons were used, and three members of the patrol were either killed or wounded. The group managed to return to base.

The martyr 'Ali Shu'aytu unit of the National Resistance detonated an explosive charge as two vehicles used by Israeli intelligence passed by on the Al-Khardali Bridge-Marj 'Uyun Road. One of them was destroyed, killing three intelligence operatives. Reinforcements arrived at the scene immediately and three citizens were detained.

The National Resistance has also announced that some of its fighters attacked an agent Lahd position in Bayt Yahun at dawn today with rockets and automatic weapons. The post was hit squarely and the fighters returned to base with only one member of the group slightly wounded.

Israelis, Lahd Storm Villages, Stop Merchant Ship

NC261833 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces, accompanied by Lahd's militiamen, stormed the villages of Shab'a, Kafr Shuba, and Rashayya al-Fukhkhar today. Local residents were herded into public squares, where they were interrogated and searched. They also were accused of dealing with members of the Lebanese National Resistance, and of covering their tracks in the aforementioned towns. This coincided with the presence of Israeli gunboats along the southern coast and their interception of a merchant ship off Al-Zahrani.

Al-Jumayyil Expresses Support for Libya

NC261724 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1647 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today made a telephone call to Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi to inquire about the events that have taken place in the Gulf of Sidra in the past 2 days. President al-Jumayyil told Col al-Qadhafi that Lebanon believes in strengthening and developing Arab solidarity and denounces any aggression against the sovereignty of a fraternal Arab state. He said that Lebanon stands by the Libyan Jamahiriyyah in defending its territorial integrity and sovereignty. The president of the Republic also sent a message to Col al-Qadhafi on recent local and regional developments and Lebanon's position on them.

PSP Offers Suicide Squads to Libya

NC270548 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0544 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has sent a cable of support to Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi. In his cable, Junblatt says: We hail with full pride and admiration your heroic confrontation of the reckless imperialist attacks on our cherished Arab waters. We hereby reiterate the PSP leadership's militant support for your legitimate defense of the entire Arab nation. On this occasion, we declare that the PSP forces are ready to join the suicide squads and participate in strikes on U.S. interests wherever they may be.

Journalist Discusses Meeting With Syria's Khaddam

NC261841 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Following his meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus, Milhim Karam, chairman of

the Lebanese Editors Association, said that he discerned a profound understanding of all the issues that were discussed. He stated: With regard to Lebanon, Khaddam thinks that Syria has done a great deal for it and will continue to work on behalf of Lebanon's integrity and interests. Syria supports and gives its blessing to whatever the Lebanese people agree upon. Syria has done its best to facilitate the mission of papal envoy Silvestrini.

As for the issue of the south, Karam said: In Khaddam's view, this is a Lebanese affair. Syria is not against the implementation of UN Resolution 425, but it does not support any security arrangements that amount to a return to the 17 May agreement.

Karam added: Khaddam thinks that it is unlikely that an Arab summit conference will be held in the present situation. He is of the opinion that Syria's relations with Iran are sound and its relations with the Soviet Union are (?growing). If Israel embarks on war with Syria, its losses will be grave. Indeed, he believes that, were such a war to take place, it would be a serious affair, not without consequences.

Amal Ends Participation in Strike Force

NC270705 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] According to security sources in West Beirut, the Amal Movement stopped participating in the joint strike force 3 days ago. Consequently, the strike force's activities in certain areas, particularly where Hizballah has offices, have been obstructed. The sources add that a number of confiscated weapons are unaccounted for at the strike force command center. The Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party have charged one another with stealing 15 pistols.

Envoy Says USSR Will Support UNIFIL Extension

NC261314 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1145 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Today in Mansur Palace, Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, met with the charges d'affaires of the five countries that are permanent members of the UN Security Council and with the ambassadors of the countries participating in UNIFIL. Deputies for the south took part in the session. The goal of the meeting was to facilitate the mission of the parliamentary delegations that will travel to several capitals to explain the situation in the south and explore ways to implement Resolution 425 and to renew the UNIFIL mandate.

During the meeting, Yuriy Suslikov, the Soviet charge d'affaires, said that his country will vote in favor of the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate this time. The Soviet Union so far consistently has abstained from voting on this issue. Suslikov denied any knowledge of his country's intention to finance UNIFIL.

Army Claims 'New Forces' Involved in Shelling

NC261553 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Statement issued by the Army Command Guidance Directorate on 26 March]

[Text] Certain armed groups in Beirut and the mountain area, and particularly in upper Al-Matn, have been exacerbating the military situation in the past 3 days to achieve known aims and goals. The Army's positions and installations, and populated areas in Beirut and Al-Duwwar, have been shelled at different times in order to aggravate the situation in the country. The Army Command has issued a warning to those who perpetrate these events, which bring destruction and ruination to all Lebanese citizens.

At 0915 this morning, 26 March, rockets suddenly rained down on the Army's positions in Al-Duwwar. Some rockets landed in towns and villages in Al-Matn, and others, fired from 'Aynturah, fell on B'abdat. Dozens of rockets fell on the townships of Rumiya, Brummanah, and Al-Duwwar and on the Al-Matn coast at about 1005.

These operations inflicted human losses among military personnel and innocent civilians and caused damage to property. It appears from the heavy weapons used that new forces are participating in the intensified shelling. In view of this painful situation, the Army Command was compelled to return fire everywhere in order to silence it at the source and to safeguard the lives of military personnel and civilians.

The Army Command will not hesitate to defend its positions. This new warning is directed at those who are trying to ignite the fires of war again in pursuit of known objectives.

Shellfire, Fighting in Mountain Areas

NC271130 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The areas of Bayt Miri, Brummanah, and B'abdat are now coming under shellfire. Clashes involving the use of large-caliber weapons also are raging along the combat lines of Al-Dawwar, Al-'Ayun, Bikfayya, and Tallat Mar Ilyas. Security sources believe that the situation will only continue to deteriorate in view of the fact that this shelling was preceded by a declared state of alert among gunmen in upper Al-Matn.

State, Party, People Condemn U.S. Libyan Attack

Qaddah Addresses Anti-U.S. Rally

JN271024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0739 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Speech by Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, before an anti-U.S. rally in Damascus 27 March 1986]

[Excerpts] Hafiz al-Asad's Damascus marches with its proud masses to voice its extreme anger and to condemn the U.S. imperialist aggression against the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyyah and to affirm to our fraternal Libyan Arab people that it is with them with its manpower and resources, hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder out of its unshakable belief that the confrontation against the enemy is the same even if conducted in different arenas. The confrontation is the same whether in Palestine, the Golan, Lebanon, the occupied Arab territory, or Surt and Tripoli. It is one front against one enemy, who seeks to dominate the Arab region and its resources and to usurp Arab territory and give it to the Zionist enemy.

O masses of our people, the U.S. Administration's aggression against the fraternal Libyan Jamahiriyyah has not come as a surprise to anyone, because it expresses the aggressive, provocative nature characterizing U.S. policy, especially under the Reagan administration, which continues to believe that the policy of terrorism and threats can undermine the determination of militant nations and suppress their will. Thus, the U.S. Administration has proceeded with plans to dominate the world and to keep it under the burden of monopoly to control the resources of nations. To carry out those plans, the U.S. Administration reinforces its military power, masses fleets, and establishes rapid deployment forces to suppress nations. Our Arab region features significantly in those plans in view of its strategic position and abundant economic and human resources. However, those plans have collided with an impregnable barrier represented by our country's splendid steadfastness and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah's revolutionary adamance.

The U.S. design in Lebanon has been thwarted and the Camp David accords are relenting under the blows of our proud people in Arab Egypt. Therefore, U.S. imperialism, known for its aggressive nature, has resorted to launching its armed aggression against the Libyan territory. Here also, Zionist provocations and enemy leaders' threatening statements intensify daily against our country's steadfastness. Their aim is to save the capitulation line, breath life to its dilapidated tools, and spread fear among those opposing this line.

The flagrant, impertinent U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah represents a new, serious phase of hegemony, especially after the failure of all the U.S. attempts to achieve this hegemony through the Zionist entity. U.S. imperialist circles should have learned their lesson from their earlier defeat in Vietnam and their recent defeat in Lebanon and realized that the determination and will of nations are sterner than what they possess in terms of material and military resources. The strugglers who have preferred martyrdom so their nation can live

have left no choice for the enemies of their nation other than the choice of defeat and shame.

Proud masses of our people, the fleets and planes of the aggressors only scare the coward and hesitant. As for the steadfast, who have chosen the path of struggle and sacrifice, the path of confrontation for the sake of liberating the land and the nation's will and achieving the aspirations of unity, freedom, and socialism, their determination to confront and make sacrifices toughens with every aggression they face.

Arab Syria, under the leadership of our great party and its secretary general comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, declares today with all strength and determination that aggression on the Libyan Jamahiriyyah is aggression against it and the Arab nation. It affirms that the new U.S. military aggression is a link in a long chain of aggression, one of whose links we destroyed in Lebanon. We will destroy its other links directed against Libya and any other part of Arab territory.

If by their aggression against fraternal Libya, U.S. imperialists think they are instilling fear and terror in our hearts, then we say that they will only reap defeat and death. Peoples who have chosen the path of struggle will defeat all the forces of injustice and aggression. Those in the White House who are motivated by monopolist interests seem to forget that the wheel of history does not turn backward and that the system of imperialist and colonial plunder collapsed decades ago. Peoples' determination to attain their rights and safeguard their honor and independence will not be deterred by imperialism's show of force and firepower.

Masses of our proud nation, the dirty plot implemented by U.S. imperialism and its Zionist ally will be defeated and the Arab nation's willpower will triumph. We are strong as long as we believe we have a just cause and we are powerful as long as we are determined to achieve victory.

As for you, O brothers in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, remain steadfast, fight, and defend, because you are fighting for and defending the cause of the entire Arab nation. Rest assured that we are with you. You will not be alone against aggression or the threat to use aggression. [applause and cheers] Our leader, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, has affirmed these facts to the leader of your revolution, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi [applause]. It is also part of our belief. O Libyan brothers, you are not alone. You are backed by all the Arab masses and the progressive, liberation peace, and justice forces. You will triumph with your nation's support, just as your nation triumphs with the support of its struggler sons. Revolutionary greetings to you from your Arab people in Arab Syria. We wish you an early victory.

Cabinet Stresses Support for Libya

JN261244 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Damascus — The Council of Ministers met under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1100 today. It conducted a political review of the current developments in the region. The Council of Ministers stressed the U.S. aggression against fraternal Libya is a provocative operation and a serious

form of political and military terrorism by the United States against fraternal Libya and the entire Arab nation, and that this hostile U.S. policy is not new, because the United States has practiced and is still practicing this.

The Council of Ministers stressed Syria's resolute support for fraternal Libya. It also stressed the need for achieving an effective solidarity to confront the U.S. aggression, because through solidarity and steadfastness, the United States will never be able to achieve any of its objectives which are hostile to the Arab nation.

Popular Groups Denounce U.S.

*JN261700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Damascus — Popular organizations in Syria issued a statement today condemning the U.S. aggression against fraternal Libya. The statement says: After a series of provocative military maneuvers in the eastern Mediterranean, the U.S. Administration launched a clearly insolent aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under weak pretexts. This clearly reveals the reality of U.S. ambitions in the Arab region, as well as its attempts to impose hegemony and dominate the destiny of the peoples struggling for their freedom and independence.

The statement adds: With its heinous act, the U.S. Administration has proved it can no longer tolerate witnessing peoples acquiring the means to defend their territories, their national resources, and their right to adopt the policy which expresses their interests. The world has recently, especially during Reagan's reign, witnessed a U.S. escalation of the state of war in many areas of the world and in our Arab region in particular.

The statements says: The core of the U.S. policy lies in the attempt to impose monopoly interests on states against the peoples' wills. To achieve this objective, the U.S. Administration clings to all kinds of flimsy pretexts which have become clear to our people and all peoples of the world. The statement adds: in implementation of that aggressive policy, the United States assembled its fleets in Lebanese waters supported by NATO fleets and forces to support the Zionist aggression against Lebanese territory, terrorize the heroic steadfastness of our people and country, and impose treasonous accords which suspend the inalienable and national rights of our people and nation. The 17 May accord was one example of these accords. The U.S. Administration continues to extend all forms of military and economic might to practice its continuous aggression against the Arab nation. The United States is now crowning those provocations with a barbarous and clear aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, a fraternal Arab country whose people and leadership stand against hostile schemes.

The popular organizations' statement affirms that the U.S. aggression exposes the Arab nation to international terrorism by the Washington-Tel Aviv alliance and the forces of international imperialism. This makes us dutybound to confront U.S. international terrorism and to prove to the world that the Arab nation can repulse and confront the aggression and that these nations'

sons are brave, ready to offer sacrifices, believe in the justice of the Arab cause, and have the means to punish aggressors and foil the schemes of Washington and Tel Aviv.

The statement adds: While strongly condemning the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the popular organizations in Syria warn the United States about the consequences of its aggression, which puts international security and peace in danger. The popular organizations affirm their stand alongside our people in the Jamahiriya to topple and foil the U.S. schemes, affirming their confidence in victory.

Aggression Flaunts Law, Morals

*JN261346 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the United States was defeated in the Mediterranean the moment it began its aggressive military acts against the Libyan Jamahiriya. This defeat will have its effect on the future of U.S. relations, economic interests, positions, and influences in the Middle East — an effect which will not be in line with U.S. dreams of dominating the region and its wealth. The U.S. aggression against Libya will not be a glorious page in American history, because it is an unjustifiable aggression that cannot be defended under any international law, pact, or agreement. This aggression is contrary to international law and morals.

If what is between the United States, which has dispatched its forces to Libyan waters some thousands of kilometers from the United States, and Libya, which is defending its territory, air space, and waters, reminds many people in the world of the well-known story of the wolf and the lamb, we say that Libya is not a lamb which the American wolf can easily attack and devour, and achieve its main objectives in the region. Libya is supported by forces which enjoy a big weight regionally and internationally. These forces will not allow aggressive U.S. arrogance to act belligerently and play with steel and fire in this part of the world, with its vested regional and international interests, and make it part of U.S. national security or a zone of influence for a forward American base; namely, Israel. Foremost of the forces supporting Libya are Syria, the USSR, the Arab liberation movement and its revolutionary forces and capabilities, and all world nations and forces that love freedom, peace, progress, and justice in this world.

Dispatching some planes to attack targets in Libyan waters and territories will neither scare Libya nor the peoples of the region. It is not an indication of strength, but rather of moral and political weakness and of the U.S. rulers' inability to achieve their objectives. It is an indication of these rulers' opposition to international detente and peoples' rights and their pursuance of the policy of armed force, terrorism, and aggression.

The whole world knows that the freedom of navigation in the Mediterranean has never been threatened at any time. The one threatening this freedom is the United States, which hijacked an Egyptian airliner in international air space, and Israel, the ally

of the biggest imperialist power, the United States, which has interfered and continues to interfere with the freedom of international aviation and shipping in the Mediterranean. When Libya replies to the impudent attack on its air space, waters, and territories it is in fact exercising its legitimate rights of self-defense, guaranteed under the UN Charter and international law. Any support Libya gets for this legitimate self-defense is also a legitimate act consistent with international law and the principles of the UN Charter. Libya has every right to call for support from any quarter to repulse the U.S. aggression in self-defense.

If U.S. rulers think their eruption of the situation near the Libyan shores could divert the attention of the Arabs, especially Syria, from the aggressive plans being prepared in Israel against Syria and the Arab steadfast forces, which are determined to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to regain the usurped Arab rights, then they are deluding themselves. What is taking place in Israel is being watched closely and will be faced with the appropriate means and measures. There will be no Arab surrender to Israel and no Arab acceptance of subservience to the United States. One of the facts that emerged from the U.S. aggression against Libya is that the United States has not obtained the support of a single Arab state. And, in any Israeli-U.S. aggression against any Arab state, the Arabs masses from the ocean to the gulf will stand as one against this aggression and the enemy. The very dear price which the United States pay would be its status in the Middle East and the world as well as its interests and cherished objectives in the region.

Those western states, especially Britain and the Netherlands, that back the U.S. aggression in the Mediterranean, claiming that it is related to the freedom of navigation, are in fact distorting the reality and the facts. Their support for this aggression will not help defuse the explosive situation created by the United States. We say the United States must stop its acts of aggression against Libya, terminate its aggressive, provocative maneuvers, and withdraw the flotilla it massed before matters deteriorate further and get out of control.

What the United States has planned and sought from its aggression is one of the impossibilities in our world. The United States will have to admit its defeat and withdraw from the region whether it likes it or not. The final say in this part of the world will only be for peoples who create history and plan geography.

TISHRIN: Washington Planned Action

JN270937 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 27 Mar (SANA) — The *TISHRIN* newspaper issued here today said that as before, the United States did not succeed in justifying its aggression against Libya, and that therefore, it is admitting its recklessness, thus, reflecting the lack of its sense of responsibility as a superpower. Under the headline "Washington Admits," *TISHRIN* said that the U.S. officials' have affirmed that the U.S. aggression against Libya was not mounted on the spur of the moment nor was it a reaction by Washington's militarists. It was implementation of a preplanned scheme.

The paper said that while the United States is trying to force the Arabs to cower and capitulate to its ally, Israel, the nationalist Arab forces, led by Syria, are concerned with confronting and defeating the U.S. attack and inflicting possible harm on the United States and its various interests in the region.

The paper noted that imperialism is pursuing peoples and striking them, using its most sophisticated conventional weapons to subjugate them. But the other aspect of the problem is that the forces of freedom in the world do not remain neutral in such cases. This is what the USSR noted when it affirmed that what is going on is a veritable war whose consequences cannot be predicted.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* said that if Washington wants to feel the pulse of the Arab-Soviet friendship, we say that all the progressive Arab forces insist on their alliance with the Soviet Union, which stands by Arab rights. The United States should perfectly understand that there is no compromise on this point.

Prime Minister Delivers Policy Statement

JN262127 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1756 GMT 26 Mar 86

["Text" of Syrian Government policy statement delivered by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm to the People's Assembly on 26 March 1986]

[Text] Mr People's Assembly speaker, female and male members. Through the mutual and benevolent relationship between the legislative and executive authorities, words should be coupled with actual deeds and not be intended as a source of embellishment. This is because the words here speak for themselves in all objectivity so that we may tell the truth in presenting the executive authority's statement to the legislative authority. We leave it up to the legislative authority to frankly and clearly express its opinion on the government policy statement while aiming to review matters simply but truthfully, and to express things as they are or should be, not within the framework of desires and ambitions, but within the framework of facts and possibilities.

The most noble and glorious aspect of our constitutional norms in this mutual relationship is submitting our government policy plan to your esteemed assembly, to which we ensure and affirm our eagerness to make it objective because of our conviction and eagerness to ensure that the discussion of it will also be objective to formulate, deepen, and assess matters under existing and future circumstances. Thus, this honest, constructive discussion will enrich the statement, the subsequent plan, and the entire work of the legislative and executive authorities in the forthcoming phase. Here, with confidence and optimism, we submit our government policy statement as we embark on a new phase of work and production — a phase in which we want to achieve and insist on achieving the desire success. This is because we possess both the will and determination to achieve this success. No obstacle, difficulty, or great effort will prevent us from achieving this success so long as the homeland's internal and external circumstances demand that we exert efforts, exercise self-denial, and offer the dearest sacrifices. Be assured that we address you with the firm will of October, speak frankly to you, and together seek to approve what will achieve the important

objectives which we charted and which have become firmly imprinted on the course of our life and have defined the political, economic, educational, and military outlines of our course. All this is abundant with a strong will to develop our strength and make available all our capabilities to achieve a more effective cooperation in all fields to achieve the sixth phase of the 5-year plan for economic and social development. We hope that we will accurately, decisively, and ethically implement this plan to benefit our country, people, and our nation.

At the beginning of this government policy statement, I would like to warmly congratulate your esteemed assembly, the new People's Assembly, speaker and members, on the people's confidence in you because you are worthy of it. I would also like to congratulate the previous assembly, speaker and members, for their sincere efforts to carry out their legislative work, which helped the government in its executive work. On this occasion, I would like to affirm extreme eagerness to ensure continuing firm cooperation between the two authorities and the development of this cooperation under our popular, democratic system, the directives of our great leader, the militant Hafiz al-Asad, and the objectives of our Progressive National Front. We also affirm the reinforcement of all this under the guidance of the principles of our great party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and the resolutions of its conferences.

I am greatly confident that these major established facts will increase, develop, and deepen in the forthcoming phase. Thus, the government will have fulfilled its promises and embodied its legitimate aspirations to carry out its mission and meet all of its responsibilities in cooperation, consultation, and dialogue with your esteemed assembly. We receive support from your assembly, whose supervision, monitoring, and judgment help us in shouldering our responsibilities and in exercising these responsibilities in all fields, not only in implementing what is approved, but in exploring and excelling in deepening and reinforcing what is approved. This is because our life under socialism and progress, which is our motto and which needs to be implemented with extreme seriousness and firmness, demands that we serve the people because we are part of them, that we frankly tell them the facts and inform them of developments, and proudly appreciate the growing enlightenment of our masses and their supreme sense of responsibility and complete awareness of our circumstances in which we receive from all our citizens understanding, support, loyalty, and struggle in the political, economic, and military fields. We also receive an overall response of constant work to overcome difficulties, achieve the development objectives, and guarantee the success of our desired aims.

Our people's steadfastness, the notable position we have attained on Arab and international levels, and the great changes we have accomplished permit us to evaluate the true size of our achievements, calculate the effective steps we have taken, and feel with satisfaction that we have covered major economic and political phases in building modern Syria — a state for confrontation, steadfastness, liberation, regaining of rights, and development, pursuing and carrying out its plans with hard work and sweat. This convinces us that the destiny of crucial issues in the region is no longer dependent on other people's will, claims, or arrogance.

The age of Israeli bragging of its superiority, U.S. domination, and fear of plots and political and economic pressure has gone for good because we have removed all these things and we will continue to remove them one after another [as heard]. All hostile plans will founder on the rock of our steadfastness, our people's unity, and our Arab nation's cohesion. In light of all the experiences Syria has gone through and surmounted proudly and honorably and preparations we have made to face all eventualities, and thanks to our strong steadfastness at home and abroad, we can truly say that we are standing on solid ground which cannot be shaken by storms from any direction. Our people who have been toughened by struggle stand proudly under the leadership of our president whose wisdom has been acknowledged by the world, even our foes. Therefore, we are convinced of our ability to confront, liberate, and repulse aggression from source.

Our course in the field of development during the past few years has been tough. However, we did not hesitate or give up. We continued to implement plans, face hardships, surmount obstacles, and make difficult decisions. This has given us confidence and wider knowledge of our resources and capabilities so we are now in a better position to determine the means of rectifying and guiding consumption and avoiding all that is harmful to our economy in the effort to build a sound, solid, and self-reliant economic base for our modern state.

To preserve our economic and social gains and to achieve our pan-Arab objectives, we must redouble our efforts so the society in this country will be a true progressive, socialist society. Our people should continue to work as usual under the historic leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad on the basis of the guidelines contained in his speech during the opening session of this esteemed assembly and also in his splendid and wise speech on the 23d anniversary of the glorious 8 March revolution, especially his words which said: None of us solely owns the homeland or solely tackles its concerns and problems. All of us own the homeland and tackle together its concerns and problems.

The president also said: We have made accomplishments despite all obstacles. However, we are still facing many important tasks in all fields calling for continued hard work to build a strong economic base which can meet the people's requirements and defense needs and push the wheel of progress and development forward.

Mr Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, the government, while presenting to your esteemed assembly a brief statement containing the main outlines of its work program for the next phase, affirms that it will continue its policy stemming from leader al-Asad's instructions and Ba'th Party congresses, especially the 8th regional congress. Foremost among the government's objectives is that great, noble objective represented by continuing to build our brave armed forces, supplying them with all their requirements, and strengthening and improving their capability in fulfillment of the slogan of achieving strategic parity with the Zionist enemy for the sake of liberating the occupied territory and regaining the usurped rights so that these forces, which have set the most splendid examples of heroism and sacrifice, will remain strong by their weapons, firm in their belief, and lofty in their proud, honorable stand, and so that these forces will also be a support for pan-Arab struggle, a shield for the Arab cause, and

a defender of all the boundaries of the great Arab homeland.

To implement the plan of action included in the policy statement, the government is committed to attain its objectives in light of the basic principles of domestic and foreign policy.

In the field of domestic policy: The government's domestic policy is defined by a deep concern for implementing basic plans in three fields: the general infrastructure, the economy, and the services.

The government will be very firm in implementing these tasks. It will also be very firm in dealing with negligence and illegal gains as well as in controlling the situation so the good people will be rewarded and the bad people will be punished.

In the field of economic policy and services: Whenever we move toward the next stage after preparing a 5-year plan, we realize that the implementation of such a plan will not be easy in light of the circumstances that emerged at the beginning of the eighties. The achievement of the plan resulted in removing many obstacles in the path of economic and social development and in expanding production in industry and agriculture in addition to the big expansion in the services sector.

Naturally, the coming plan and the economic policy should stem from studying the current situation and the results of the previous plan to increase the positive achievements and avoid the negative trends through the best use of all resources and potential.

Therefore, the 6th 5-Year Plan will be prepared with a more comprehensive and realistic approach in which steps will be taken to link the general budget with the development and the qualitative plans within the framework of a more coordinated economic balance and within the framework of a basic and central objective to increase high-quality and less expensive products. This will be accompanied by distributing the gains to the greatest number of people.

Consequently, the next draft plan will be based on amending the structure of the national economy in the interest of the agricultural sector and on expanding the agricultural sector's role, as well as on strengthening the role of the public sector in this development, encouraging the joint and private sectors, and integrating the tasks of the three sectors.

It is very important to explain that a continued and balanced economic and social development calls for building new production elements on a selective basis to develop projects that bring quick profits; distributing the products for export and local consumption while maintaining the concern for achieving more balance between general expenditures and local resources; and abandoning the present forms of consumption and putting them in harmony with the nature of our resources and our types of production. This is in addition to changing the structure of the labor force to achieve harmony between financial and human resources.

In the field of agriculture, our policy will continue to concentrate on developing this sector to achieve more sufficiency in our food needs and to provide a surplus for exports by improving the use of all available factors of production in this sector; by continuing

to reclaim the lands, build dams and irrigation projects, improve water use, and maintain the soil base; by integrating the plant and animal sectors; by developing the Bedouin area to increase the income of peasants, develop their capabilities, encourage productive cooperative work, reinforce the resources of the agricultural cooperative bank; and by making agricultural pricing a factor encouraging production and its development.

We will also continue the process of agricultural mechanization and provide the machinery required to increase production and yields.

In the field of industry, we will continue to expand investments in this sector so it can support the agricultural sector, fulfill its needs, and industrialize its products. We will also concentrate on completing our study of the status of present industries and on finding radical solutions to the problems facing them. Meanwhile, we will concentrate on increasing production in conformity with the available production potential and on improving the specifications and quality of products. We will give more attention to training, raising efficiency, and improving the conditions for the administration of this in their factories. This will take place in parallel with preparing economic and technical studies needed to establish the following industries: industries which depend on local raw materials with a view to making the maximum benefit of our available resources to meet consumption needs and increasing export capability; the medical industries; and the agricultural industries. All this will fall within the framework of achieving integration among the various activities of the national economy in a manner supporting its production base.

In the field of oil and gas we will continue exploration and development of explored fields to expedite placing this wealth in the service of our national economy. We will develop our petrochemical and refining industries to achieve more integration and to increase their ability to meet our needs.

In the field of foreign trade, we will continue to encourage exportation, open new markets, and conclude trade agreements in a manner serving these aims. It is obvious that these accomplishments depend on the success we are seeking to achieve to improve and increase production. In the field of banking we will continue to implement the steps we adopted for turning this sector into a tool increasing our financial revenues and investing them in productive channels boosting our currency and financial potential.

All our policies will be based on achieving the objective sought from the required work. Accordingly, we will concentrate on increasing production as an objective for investment and on eliminating squandering, abuse, and irrational consumption as a way to preserve our revenues and wealth. We have actually started to adopt the necessary measures to rationalize power consumption and use alternative sources of power.

Perhaps the field in which we made major strides is that of improving the balance between expenditure and revenues in the state budget. We exerted great efforts this year to keep expenditures at the levels reached in 1985 while working to increase revenues according to our just socialist tax policy. Although we

began the first year of the 6th 5-Year Plan only this year, most work related to this plan has been accomplished. Perhaps the most important overall trend contained in this plan is its concentration on increasing production and local products at averages which allow for increasing the individual income and improving consumption while developing the income structure toward investing in agricultural sectors, increasing savings, and improving the percentage of covering imports with the revenue of exports.

In our agricultural policy we will exert further efforts to provide more efficient economic development and better economic performance. We will continue to improve the environment supporting productive activities by creating incentives to undertake productive activities and by achieving further administrative productive development on the level of making and implementing decisions. Our economic action will also fall within the framework of attaining faith in Arab economic unity, bolstering Arab economic integration, increasing cohesion with socialist countries, and developing economic and trade relations with them.

The sector of mass, social, and personal services has enjoyed further government attention with a view to increasing the services rendered to the citizen and improving them in terms of quality and availability, in addition to providing similar services in terms of quantity and quality to the citizen in various provinces, to the citizen in cities and rural areas in the same province, and to the citizen in various suburbs of the same city.

Immense efforts have been exerted to implement and develop utility service projects such as hotels, telephones, and others. Many service projects have also been implemented in the various parts of the country. These projects have led to comprehensive expansion of services in education, culture, health, transportation, as well as road construction and in providing drinking water to towns and rural areas.

Based on these considerations, the services sector has realized a great rate of growth, something which had a positive effect on all citizens. The government will continue to develop the services through the 6th 5-Year Plan. We will pay special attention to using present services by employing the available human, mechanical, and technical resources to the greatest possible extent.

In the field of Arab policy:

On the Arab level, this country's pan-Arab stand of struggle will remain firm, stemming from our rights, the justice of our cause, and our conviction of victory in the fateful battle. All the pressures, plots, and aggressive threats to which we are exposed will never change our position — threats which our Zionist enemies are issuing with the backing and encouragement of the U.S. imperialism, which, together with the United States, form a strategic alliance directed against Syria and the Arab nation with the aim of terrorizing this nation, leading it to desperation, and imposing capitulation on it.

Syria has led the moves against retreat, defeatism, and cowering before threats and pressures. It is continuing on this correct,

principled line. Syria will resist to the end the Camp David agreements, checked and contained by Syria. Subsequent events in Arab Egypt itself have proven that our heroic Arab people of Egypt are resisting the Camp David accords and are mounting violent, armed uprising against them. The Egyptian people are waging undaunted struggle in various forms to reject and foil all the Camp David policies, and force the Egyptian rulers to renounce them so Egypt will return to Arab ranks with all its power and resources and reoccupy its leading position in the pan-Arab struggle, adhering to the Arab nation's cause, which will not emerge victorious except by Arab cohesion and by the unity of Arab struggle and voice.

Stemming from this pan-Arab stand of struggle, we continue our endeavors to realize effective Arab solidarity on the basis of resisting imperialism and Zionism, liberating the land, regaining the rights, and enabling the Palestinian Arab people to build their independent Arab state on their national soil. On this course also, we will strive to help the dear Lebanese people surmount their tribulation, stop bloodshed on their land, achieve national accord among their sons, and remove Israeli occupation from the remaining part of their territory to enable fraternal Lebanon to recover and achieve the unity of its territory and people.

We also firmly stand against the capitulation policies and projects to liquidate the Palestinian cause — policies which are being peddled and on which consultations are held to generalize them among the plotters.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, which the fascist Saddam regime ignited to remove Iraq from the equation of struggle against the Zionist enemy, it was meant to disturb the equation of the Arab-Israeli struggle, particularly because the war broke out following Egypt's removal from this equation as a result of the Camp David agreements. Therefore, this war is within the framework of the U.S.-Zionist plans for this region — plans which are aimed at removing Iraq, with all its immense material and military resources, from the basic front of confrontation with Israel, and the wide resources which the friendly Iranian Islamic revolution made available and which could have provided an important weight on the way to liberating the occupied Arab territory.

We firmly announce our stand of solidarity and complete support for the fraternal Libyan people in the face of the armed U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra and the Libyan territorial waters. We strongly denounce the U.S. provocation and U.S. imperialism's crimes against fraternal Libya. We stand with all our capabilities alongside the Libyan people and Armed Forces in their struggle against U.S. piracy on the Libyan waters and territories.

In the field of foreign policy:

Our contemporary world is witnessing a violent, bitter struggle as well as an increasingly tense international situation. International relations are passing through an extremely complicated phase. All this requires our accurate study, continuous watch, and good understanding of the repercussions of this situation and their results in the political, military, economic, and other fields. Syria's policy in this respect is well-known. Syria is endeavoring

to realize international detente, stop the arms race, and prevent the spreading of nuclear weapons. Our policy is based on backing the Nonaligned Movement, ridding the Third World of all forms of foreign trusteeship or domination, and forming a world front against Zionism, world imperialism, and racism in all its forms. Syria seeks to make cooperation between Islamic states a means of consolidating the Islamic world's resources against the Zionist and imperialist plots, supporting the Palestinian cause, struggling to promote the Arab causes, affirming and entrenching friendly relations and cooperation with the forces of peace and liberation in the world, particularly with the socialist states, led by the friendly USSR, by promoting this cooperation in order to face the U.S.-Zionist alliance and its conspiratorial projects and supporting the liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Syria's policy is also based on monitoring and comprehending European events, increasing contacts with European states, peoples, and progressive forces to promote the stands of these states and peoples toward our Arab causes and to expose the dangers of the U.S. and Israeli aggressive policies to peace and security in the region.

Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen. By moving forward, time is of great importance in deciding success or failure. [sentence as heard] This is confirmed by all nations in this age as well as in all ages. Therefore, by choosing the path of freedom and dignity, the nation necessarily chooses the path of sacrifices, exalting the meaning of sacrifice. The role and necessity of sacrifice become great when the nation is threatened or exposed to danger. In this country, we faced and continue to face an immense danger; namely, the expansionist, imperialist, and colonialist Zionist danger aimed at liquidating the Arab existence and wiping out the Arab nation to realize the Zionist dream of establishing a nation that extends from the Nile to the Euphrates.

We also face the Zionist preparations, aggressions, and military and mobilization efforts to realize this abhorrent project. In view of this situation, our only choice is to continue work and efforts, sacrifices, as well as adherence to the instructions of our president, who said: We have triumphed over big challenges and we are yet to triumph over the biggest challenges most threatening to the destiny of the national and the homeland. To triumph over these threats, we must continue and step up the process of construction from the cultural, political, economic, social, and military standpoints in a manner that would lead to the emergence of an Arab homeland capable of facing the challenges regardless of their size and source. This is our course from which we will never deviate. This is our path, the path of construction and steadfastness. Let us all proceed, in cooperation and cohesion, realizing that with serious work and sincere cooperation, we will be able to build such a cherished homeland.

Finally, I thank you all for listening and for your interest. I hope that through this brief outline of our program, I have explained the plan of the next phase. Again I am sure that your discussion will enrich this program and that your recommendations will be an integral part of the government's policy. I pray God to grant us success in serving our nation's glory and strength. May God's blessings and peace be upon you.

Al-Shar' returns From Arab League Council Session
JN262100 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this evening after leading the Syrian delegation to the Arab League Council's 85th session in Tunis 24-26 March.

Air Force Planes Attack Fatah Targets in Lebanon

TA271004 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Air Force planes have attacked two Fatah targets southeast of Sidon. The IDF spokesman reports that all our aircraft returned safely to their bases and the pilots reported good hits. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the aircraft attacked two bases that served as Fatah headquarters in the area of the Al-Miyah wa Miyah refugee camp and a training base south of the camp.

Further Details Reported

TA271139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1110 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal — live]

[Text] Air Force planes attacked two Fatah targets southeast of Sidon and returned safely to their base. The pilots reported good hits. The headquarters of a Fatah battalion situated between the Al-Miyah wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camps, which included a structure and vehicles mounted with machineguns, was struck. Another target was a Fatah training structure with approximately 10 tents and other pieces of equipment. This place is located approximately 1 km south of the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp.

It has meanwhile been reported from Lebanon that approximately 15 people were killed in the Air Force raids and many others were wounded.

Thus, less than 2 years after the IDF withdrawal from Sidon, nearly 1,000 terrorists from all the organizations have already returned to that place. The Fatah terrorists can be found primarily in the refugee camps themselves, while the terrorists belonging to other organizations, such as Al-Sa'iqah, Jibril, Abu Musa [Sa'd Musa Muragha], and others can be found just outside and around the refugee camps.

The Air Force had raided this area in late January, and that time it also bombed three targets belonging to Palestinian terrorist organizations. Recently terrorists have been spotted returning to Lebanon, and they are beginning to rebuild their network in the form of combat military units like those that were active there prior to the Lebanon war.

Peres: Raid Reprisal for Katyusha Attacks

TA271200 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1149 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that Israel is taking all possible measures to prevent incidents like the katyusha firing at Qiryat Shemona this morning. The Air Force raid in Lebanon this morning is part of this campaign. At the same time, the prime minister emphasized that there is no intention to change the present defense policy.

Speaking to our Knesset correspondent Gil Ronen, Shim'on Peres said: Each time we learn about concentrations of terror-

ists or the terrorist organization's training camps and points of departure, we take the necessary preemptive measures.

IDF Conducting 'Large-Scale' Security Strip Searches

TA271218 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Four residents of Qiryat Shemona sustained slight injuries this morning when a katyusha rocket fell in a schoolyard. The victims, three students and a teacher, have already been sent home after receiving treatment. Large IDF units arrived at the site and began searches, while large-scale searches were simultaneously launched in the security strip.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the rocket was apparently fired from the area of Shaqra in the security strip, west of Qiryat Shemona.

Major General Ori Or praised the inhabitants of Qiryat Shemona for the restraint they had shown, and pointed out that life in the town returned to normal within an hour. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that studies in the school stopped for only a short while, after which they continued as scheduled.

Tabah Talks With Egypt Continue Amid Disagreements

TA261755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Report by Bassam Ja'bar from the Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel — live]

[Text] The resumption of the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations this evening on the arbitral compromis on Tabah and the bilateral relations was characterized by an atmosphere of differences of opinion on substantive issues between the two delegations. A source in the Israeli delegation told us that an intensive effort is now being made to bridge the gaps still existing between the positions of the two sides. The bone of contention at the core of the talks is the formulation of the question to be presented to the arbitrator.

This evening there was nobody who could tell us that progress was made in today's talks, that there is a rapprochement in the positions of the sides. At the same time, the spokesman of the Israeli delegation said that the talks are being held in a serious atmosphere and that the two sides are investing a great deal of effort to overcome the disagreements. The Egyptians showed a firm approach today, asking that progress on the arbitral compromis issue not be tied to progress on bilateral relations. The Egyptian also asked that the negotiations between the two sides be finished soon.

'No Progress' in 27 Mar

TA271143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1125 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli-Egyptian talks on the formulation of the Tabah arbitral compromis and the promotion of bilateral normalization

have begun at the Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel. The latest meeting in this round of talks will be held this evening, and the delegations will meet again next week in Cairo. Our correspondent Bassam Jabir filed this report from the Sheraton Hotel:

The deliberations of the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on Tabah and bilateral issues opened this morning with a meeting between the two parties to discuss general topics. The deliberations later continued in two committees: The first dealt with negotiations on the formulation of the arbitral compromis, while the other continued to discuss bilateral relations.

At a certain stage, the view here was that the talks between the two delegations would adjourn for a week to allow the Inner Cabinet to hear the results of the talks thus far, but Ya'akov Qeynan, spokesman for the Israeli delegation, informed us a short while ago that the talks will resume as early as next week.

[Begin Qeynan recording] The work of the two delegations continued this morning both on the formulation of the arbitral compromis and on bilateral issues. The work will continue this afternoon, and next week in Cairo. [end recording]

Let us repeat once again that the talks will resume this afternoon, when another session of the two delegations will take place to continue the deliberations. Meanwhile, we have been informed that no progress has been made in today's talks.

Shamir on Ties With Egypt, Talks

TA261630 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Frankel] Mr Shamir, 7 years have passed since the peace treaty with Egypt has been signed, and this is a long period. The first question I wanted to ask you was whether there are any more question-marks hovering over the peace between Israel and Egypt, or whether there are no such question marks?

[Shamir] There are no question-marks regarding the existence of the peace, the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. However, in the framework of bilateral relations there are still many issues which must be clarified, examined, improved and developed. What we do have is a state of non-belligerence. This is important in the Middle East, and we do not underestimate it. However, we expected to have full peace.

[Frankel] Are we not asking the Egyptians for more than they can deliver? For example, we have recently renewed [as heard] our relations with Spain, and this was done almost secretly. The Spaniards have also opened a PLO office in Madrid, and it seems that we do not criticize Spain as much as we do Egypt regarding issues which appear much more trivial?

[Shamir] There is no similarity here. Having peace between us and any other country does not rule out the existence of controversy, and we have differences of opinion in various issues with almost all the countries with which we maintain normal, peaceful relations. Our problems with Egypt are much more serious: For

example, we have no problems with Spain regarding tourism, trade, and other basic issues. One can read daily articles in the Spanish press which are extremely pro-Israeli. These things do not exist in Egypt, despite the fact that 7 years have passed.

[Frankel] Some people say that due to the internal situation in Egypt, specifically the problems facing President Mubarak, Egypt cannot form truly close relations with Israel. Do you accept this assessment?

[Shamir] I cannot accept it, because this will always be a problem Israel will face with any Arab country. Any Arab country which will make peace with Israel in the future will have to overcome the resistance of various internal elements to the peace with Israel, and if we accept the fact that the government making peace with us is surrendering to those who oppose the peace we will never reach true peace. I must say that recently we have witnessed a certain change in the Egyptian media, this following the murder of the Israeli Embassy worker in Egypt. This time the media has behaved differently than it had previously, despite the fact that the internal situation in Egypt is difficult. Therefore it is possible to say that we can and should demand and act for strengthening the peace.

[Frankel] Are you saying that the recent riots in Egypt have had no negative influence on bilateral relations?

[Shamir] I do not think so, because nobody said that one of the motives of the rioters was Israel and the peace with Israel. Only the Syrian president made this connection for his own purposes. Within Egypt, however, there was nobody who said that Israel and relations with it had anything to do with those events.

[Frankel] To end this interview, perhaps you can update us on the negotiations between Israel and Egypt over the Tabah arbitration and improving bilateral relations?

[Shamir] The talks are going on. Even today there are talks in Herzliyya. Unfortunately, we have made no progress until today due to the tough stand of the Egyptian representatives. Israel has shown great willingness to meet the Egyptian requests halfway, something which cannot be said for the Egyptian representatives, and I think that due to this fact these negotiations have not born positive results so far.

[Frankel] Is there any sense in continuing them, or will we have to take decisions at the political echelon in the near future?

[Shamir] I think we should continue the negotiations, because I do not see in what way the decisions of the political echelon can help here. We must exhaust these negotiations and make the most out of them. The political echelon has already expressed its opinion and set a series of conditions which it believes would allow settling our differences with Egypt. The decision of the Inner Cabinet was taken following an exchange of letters and words with the leaders of Egypt, and therefore I think that now we must await the results of the negotiations, and not look toward the political echelon.

Egypt's Ghali Interviewed*TA261735 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1530 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Report on interview with Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, by Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck; in Cairo, date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Beck] Today, 7 years after the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, I asked Dr Butrus Ghali, whether the existing peace is the peace which Egypt hoped for when the treaty was signed. His answer was negative: This is not the peace we hoped for, because as is well known, we signed at the time two agreements, one regarding the return of the Sinai, and the other dealing with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. According to this latter agreement there should have been autonomy in the territories, the IDF should have withdrawn from these territories, and there should have been a beginning of new relations between the territories and Israel:

[Ghali — in English] We have been successful in the first part of the treaty, and we have not been successful in the second part of the treaty. There are many reasons for this failure, but the failure is there.

[Beck] Ghali says the target of Egypt, which is comprehensive peace in the region, has not changed. There can be no true peace unless we achieve a comprehensive peace, and this is impossible unless we recognize the right to self-determination of the Palestinians living in the territories. The Egyptian minister emphasized that Egypt's purpose is to continue negotiating and to overcome the obstacles coming from both the Israeli, the Egyptian, and the Arab sides. He said we must continue to talk with each other and preserve the dialogue. Despite the difficulties Ghali expresses optimism, because he believes there is a true will for peace, both in Israel and in Egypt, a desire which is important for bringing about the comprehensive peace which is the target of Egyptian diplomacy:

[Ghali — in English] We are interested in peace-building and not in peace-keeping; we are interested in the institutionalization of peace, so it will be a new page, but there are many other pages which are even more important than this page.

[Beck] Ghali said the important thing is not to achieve a fragile peace, but rather a comprehensive peace. Ghali admits that Tabah constitutes for the Egyptians a very important element, but this is only one of many elements. In other words, we in Egypt seek a comprehensive peace. Ghali says that in order to make this possible, Egypt is currently working to bring about a rapprochement between Jordan and the PLO because for the last 8 years Egypt has been trying to encourage a Jordanian-PLO dialogue. Ghali says that Egypt believes that greater cooperation between the two is very important for bringing about peace. Ghali stressed the importance of taking into consideration the standard of living of the Palestinians in the territories. He says there is a deterioration in the situation of the Palestinians following the signing of the peace treaty, and this constitutes an obstacle on the way to peace. Therefore the Israeli Government must make efforts for improving the standard of living of the Palestinians. Ghali explains that to date we have seen little action in that direction. We are looking for building the Palestinians' trust by

way of giving them political freedom, by considering them as people who are entitled to their own homeland and institutions.

Regarding Israeli-Egyptian relations, I asked Ghali how Egypt views the normalization process. Ghali answers that Egypt had done its best to achieve normalization until the Israeli invasion into Lebanon, which was a violent blow to the peace process and a great obstacle to normalization. Now, however, we must look toward the future. Egypt's position, according to Ghali, is that there must be more contacts, and a closer dialogue. Peace between Israel and Egypt was only a first step which must be followed by similar agreements between Israel and the other Arab states. We are still at the beginning of a very long road, and we need patience, political resourcefulness, and most of all generosity on both sides.

Further Reportage on Reaction to U.S.-Libya Conflict**Peres Hopes for Al-Qadhafi's Downfall***TA261830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says the American military action against Libya could lead to Colonel al-Qadhafi's downfall. The prime minister was speaking in Jerusalem tonight. Steve Weizman reports:

[Begin recording] [Weizman] Peres said Libya has until now gone unchallenged. Al-Qadhafi's incursions into Chad and the Sudan, as well as his support for international terrorism, have met worldwide with only occasional verbal response. According to Peres, the American action in the Gulf of Sidra is an important move which, he hopes, will lead to the Libyan leader's downfall.

[Peres] I think by not trying to stop him you make him a hero; by trying to stop him, what he has described as the line of death, may be his own line, may be his own line. [as heard]

[Weizman] Peres went on to say the Mediterranean is a small sea, and if every country in the region decides unilaterally to extend its territorial waters, the historic freedom of navigation in the area will be at an end. He applauded the American moves as a step towards keeping the Mediterranean open. [end recording]

Calls Action 'Timely, Wise, Responsible'*TA270530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Here in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has applauded the U.S. operation against Libya as timely, wise, and responsible. In a speech to a gathering of Histadrut supporters from abroad, the prime minister expressed the hope that the American strike against Libya would bring about the downfall of Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi.

[Begin Peres recording] I think the movement, the exercise of the American Navy in the international waters not far from Libya is a timely, wise, and responsible decision. [applause] I am listening occasionally with disbelief to some of our commenta-

tors. They say now what Al-Qadhafi will do he will terrorize the world. Well, let's cut back in his human size. To terrorize the world is quite an undertaking, you know; it's not a simple matter. There are 3 million Libyans, and they did their very best to terrorize the world before the exercise of the American Navy. They really tried to do it, everything they could have done, enjoying one freedom: They were free from defending their own country. They thought they can do elsewhere whatever they want. What he has described as the line of death maybe is his own line. [end recording]

Eban: Operation Enhances U.S. Image

TA261147 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 26 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Rami Roholtz]

[Text] Commenting on recent events in the Gulf of Sidra, Knesset Member Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said: The operation is 100 percent American; therefore Al-Qadhafi will most likely seek a way to take action against the United States. He can do little against Israel because we are outside the range within which he could hit us. Nonetheless, he may opt to run riot against U.S. or Israeli installations in Europe. The U.S.-Israeli goal should be to depict him as a pirate.

It is in Israel's interest that the United States be seen as it is now, namely as being firm — in contrast to its image after Beirut. The Beirut fiasco also affected Israel.

The U.S. position in the face of the Libyan attempt to blockade an international waterway justifies, in retrospect, the position Israel took in 1967, when Egypt blockaded the Tiran Strait.

Papers on Confrontation

TA260948 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the review of the midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* and *HADASHOT* write about the confrontation between Libya and the United States. *MA'ARIV*, under the headline "Hoorah for the United States," says that despite support for the U.S. action, Washington and Jerusalem must know that a terrorist act against innocent and unprotected people will come in its wake. We must be prepared and cautious, and know that there may be a heavy and tragic price to pay. The problem can only be solved if Al-Qadhafi is removed from his position as leader of Libya.

HADASHOT writes that as far as Al-Qadhafi is concerned, Israel and the United States are one target. If Libya carries out its threats, the United States will have to prove that its position on the need for a harsh response to terrorism is valid not only in the Gulf of Sidra, but also in protecting Israel and its citizens.

DAVAR Urges Further U.S. Action

TA261420 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Mar 86 p 7

[Commentary by Hagay Eshed: "Strengthening the Power of Deterrence"]

[Text] The force the United States has applied against Libya is no charade, even though it is aimed at Libyan strongman Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi with his clownish airs. It was long in coming, and will have both military and political sequels. It is not over yet.

What happened was practically inevitable, and followed a preset scenario. The Americans amassed large naval and air forces; the Libyan president threatened action against them if they crossed the "Line of Death" he had arbitrarily drawn on the map of the Mediterranean; the United States warned that it would react to any provocation by the Libyan president; and each side played its part exactly according to the script. All we have to do now is wait for the results.

One may hope for the best, but must also prepare for the worst in the form of Libyan terrorist acts against U.S. targets — and while at it, also at Israeli and Jewish targets — all over the globe, including aircraft and vessels in the Mediterranean. The Libyan president will do everything in his power to make good on his threats. All we can do now is take all the precautionary and preemptive measures we can, and also prepare for graver acts of retaliation and punishment for possible Libyan attacks.

All the complications and dangers notwithstanding, this operation had long been called for. Libya has made itself the spearhead of terrorism and murder, the center of provocation in almost every conceivable direction, the headquarters for terrorism in Europe and the Middle East, and the coordinator of subversive activity and military expansion in the African arena — first in Chad, now in the Sudan, and continuously against Egypt. It was impossible to evade the need to put reins on Libya and strengthen the U.S. deterrent force in the Mediterranean and African arena.

That deterrent force had suffered a severe blow in the shameful retreat from Lebanon. It is true that since then people have come to realize that there are no winners in Lebanon, only defeated sides. Even Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who enjoys an advantage on the Lebanese front that no one else does, cannot be regarded as a winner in that arena. On the contrary, in Lebanon he exposes his failure and weakness. If one regards the acts of terror in Damascus itself as a precursor of future events, one can only say that Al-Asad has "imported" the "Lebanese malaise" to Syria.

And yet Syria's woes cannot be viewed as a source of consolation for the United States (or Israel). The U.S. (and Israeli) deterrent capability in Lebanon has weakened, turning Libya into the most suitable arena to strengthen that deterrence against any harm to security and peace, and against any provocation against U.S. prestige and status in the Middle East.

Although there is no guarantee that the U.S. President will henceforth be free to employ force in similar cases, and although one must still wait for the reaction of the U.S. public and Congress, which are generally reluctant to deal with force, even

an active uncertainty is enough to serve as a deterrent. The Libyan president, the Syrian president, and the new leader of the Soviet Union must all bear in mind that the U.S. President not only talks, but also acts. They cannot indulge in believing that he will not act again in the face of similar provocation in the Mediterranean. This is not the final word.

The war against terrorism must continue with all the measures that have been employed this far, but they should be complemented by yet another dimension, that of a direct U.S. military operation against Libya. Such an operation would have to be viewed as an act of warning and deterrence not only vis-a-vis Libya, but also vis-a-vis Syria and, indirectly, the Soviet Union, which might become involved in any large-scale military operation involving Libya and Syria, with which the Soviet Union has defense and military supply pacts, and toward which it is committed to activate an "airlift" in case of emergency.

If the United States follows this trend of strengthening its power of deterrence, Israel will also benefit, primarily regarding the Syrian threat. From now on President al-Asad will have to exercise greater caution in planning his military moves in the area. But all this depends on whether Congress and the American people are frightened by President Reagan's decision, as they have been in several such cases in the past, and do not delude themselves that this one-time event is sufficient. The war against terrorism and subversion, for which Libya is a primary base, must continue. Israel and its friends in the United States must congratulate the U.S. President for the operation he launched in the Gulf of Sidra and hope that these actions will continue as long as the Libyans persist in their acts of provocation. This will help strengthen the U.S. deterrent force against threats to peace and security in the Middle East from whatever party.

IDF Initiates Public Call-Up Exercise

*TA261525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The IDF General Staff is announcing that the public call-up exercise is being held now. Following is the formulation of the decree issued by the deputy chief of staff and the head of the IDF Operations Branch:

Reservists, the codewords of whose reserve units will be specified below, are called upon to report to reserve service immediately, at the place of which they have been notified in advance. Owners of equipment, including vehicles that are used in the units, whose codewords will be detailed below, are called upon to put this equipment immediately at the disposal of the Army at the place of which they have been notified in advance. Following are the codewords of the units called for the exercise: Berekhat Hashiloah [Siloam Pool]; Gag Gavoha [High Roof]; The Noon Circle [Hug Hatzoharayim]; Ketiva Misradit [Office Writing]; Mavo Lamiqra [Introduction to the Bible]; Nahala Vanahal [Property and Spring].

The above order is signed by Major General Dan Shomron, the deputy chief of staff and the head of the Operations Branch, by virtue of his authority as commander in accordance with the Law of Security Service 1959, combined version, in accordance with

Clause 26 of the law, and by virtue of his authority as commander in accordance with the Codes for Emergency Times, Registration of Equipment and its Mobilization, of 1956, in accordance with Code 6, and in view of the public call-up exercise currently underway. [announcer repeats the entire order]

Reserve soldier, please note that if you own equipment summoned for duty according to this order and you yourself are called up, first bring the equipment or vehicle to its slated place and later report to your unit. If you are a commander whose job is to call up reservists, get to the regular meeting place immediately, contact your unit, and make preparations to absorb the other reservists. The reservists who are called up for the exercise are asked to use the transportation system which will be operated from the meeting places and to refrain from using their private vehicles.

Exercise Ends 27 March

*TA270516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] The public call-up exercise for reservists to report to their bases ended early this morning. The IDF spokesman reports that the exercise was highly successful. The soldiers' response in reporting to their bases was quick and participation was very high. Lessons learned from previous call-up exercises were implemented in this exercise.

No Connection to U.S.-Libya Tension

*TA270746 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0605 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi says that the latest events involving the United States and Libya have no direct significance for our region and are not linked to the IDF call-up exercise. He added that he does not believe other countries in the world would launch a campaign against terrorism showing the same kind of determination as the United States. Chief of Staff Levi was interviewed last night by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz:

[Begin recording][Levi] I can say that the United States appears to have taken the kind of action we have always been demanding — namely, that terror be fiercely and constantly fought against. Perhaps it is dealing with a slightly different type of terrorism: not terrorism by organizations or certain groups, but by a state. I believe that if more countries had been convinced that this is the way to deal with terrorism of any kind, we — that is, the entire world — would have suffered a lot less from terrorism.

[Horowitz] How great is the danger that this tension between the United States and Libya will also affect our region?

[Levi] I see no direct connection between these two things. Obviously, one of the threats that is regularly raised following antiterror operations is that of intensifying and prompting further terrorism. But my experience of many years has shown me that terrorism constantly does what it can, and if you combat it, it will ultimately be less successful.

[Horowitz] Do you think this U.S. move will significantly encourage additional countries to fight against Libyan terrorism or international terrorism in general?

[Levi] Unfortunately I cannot say that this move will spur the whole world to operate a determined campaign against. We can see other countries which suffer from terrorism humiliating themselves by letting their people get hurt. I am not convinced that they will show enough courage to take similar action to fight against terrorism, although this action could help. I would like to think that it will. [End recording]

Katyusha Rockets Land in Qiryat Shemona 27 Mar

4 Residents Wounded

*TA271005 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Four residents of Qiryat Shemona sustained slight injuries from katyushas this morning. They received medical treatment, after which they were discharged. This is reported by the IDF spokesman.

Fired From North of Security Strip

TA271057 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1052 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The katyushas that fell on Qiryat Shemona today were fired from an area north of the security strip. This is reported by defense establishment sources to our military correspondent Gay Zohar. An extremist Shi'ite organization, such as Hizballah, or a Palestinian rejectionist organization seem to be responsible for the shooting. The katyushas were fired from an area which is supposedly under the control of the Shi'ite Amal organization, and a UNIFIL Irish contingent is deployed there.

Shamir Pledges To End Attacks

TA271031 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1023 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reacted to the katyusha firing in Qiryat Shemona by saying that the IDF and Israel will do everything to put an end to these attacks before they increase. Israel has the means to prevent such incidents from recurring. Minister Shamir said that we have heard that these incidents are being carried out by what is called the national resistance movement, but that movement would be well advised to fight against the cruel Syrian takeover of Lebanon rather than against Israel. We must stop it, said Foreign Minister Shamir.

Gen Or Sees No Policy Change

TA271116 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1050 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Interview with Major General Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, by correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz at the site of the katyusha attack in Qiryat Shemona on 27 March — recorded]

[Text][Horowitz] The question one automatically asks this morning, Mr Commander, is whether this is another isolated katyusha

firing incident or, seeing that this is the second time katyushas have landed in this area this week, an indication of a policy beyond an isolated firing incident?

[Or] I do not believe this indicates a change in policy, but only time will tell. If this is a change in policy, then our policy will likewise change. But let us wait and see. Let us not call it a change in policy before we are convinced that there has been a change.

[Horowitz] It had previously been claimed that Amal was making efforts to stop katyusha firings. Is this statement still correct today?

[Or] I cannot tell you with certainty who is responsible for the katyusha firing: Amal, or Hizballah, or the Palestinians. There are enough bodies who would like to fire katyushas. Therefore, right now, I cannot tell whether Amal is continuing to prevent such incidents or whether it was responsible for the shooting. It could have been Palestinian or Hizballah elements. I assume that within the next few hours or days we will find out who fired the katyushas.

[Horowitz] May I ask whether the reaction will be the usual reaction that we have seen to date, or are there any plans or ideas on ways to prevent even individual cases of katyusha firing?

[Or] There are ideas, but as for plans — I would definitely not tell you about them here, on the radio. I think people know that everything is being done to prevent the firing of katyushas even on a sporadic basis. We will simply become wiser with time.

Three Golan Druze Local Council Heads Replaced

*TA270715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Three of the four heads of the Druze local councils on the Golan have recently been replaced by order of the Interior Ministry. The residents, supporters of Syria, maintain that this marks another stage in the implementation of the tough policy they have been subjected to since the prime minister's visit. The Interior Ministry, on the other hand, claims that this is a routine move aimed at improving the municipal services. Here are some additional details from our correspondent Yo'el Dar:

[Begin recording][Dar] Unlike previous occasions such as this, no ceremony or party was held in the villages of 'Ayn Qiniya, Buq'ata, and Majdal Shams to mark the appointment of the new local council heads. Each one of them was summoned to the Interior Ministry offices to be informed of the position he had been appointed to fulfill after his predecessor had duly submitted a letter of resignation.

The residents claim that the new officials are more acceptable to the authorities, and that this is part of the heavy-handed policy which was launched shortly after the prime minister's visit to their villages.

Not so, maintains the Interior Ministry commissioner of the Northern District. The outgoing officials had nothing more to contribute than it is good to infuse new blood. Hinting at the fact

that no high-ranking official had consulted him about the prime minister's visit to Majdal Shams, which ended in stormy demonstrations, Yisra'el Kenig said:

[Kenig] I do not know what a new policy means; I know nothing about a new policy and have never heard of such a thing being established. Perhaps this is one of the outcomes of the lack of coordination between the various administration bodies operating in these areas. What I do know is that we — and myself specifically — did act in coordination with other elements, and I believe the results speak for themselves.

[Dar] We persisted and asked: Why were the local council heads removed? After all, neither they nor their predecessors were in the habit of chanting the national anthem every morning. So why did this move pass quietly?

[Kenig] That is because the residents — both the council heads and the council members — were told that the purpose of this move is substantive and unrelated to other issues which Israel's enemies or others have been trying to link to every move. They were convinced that these moves are aimed at improving the municipal services and providing good services for each and every individual. There is no ulterior motive.

[Dar] The only official who was not removed from office is Muhsin Abu Salah, head of the Mas'adah local council and a Herut Movement member who has been doing what so many others have failed to do: cooperate with the interior minister for the sake of what he calls the villagers and my fellow Druze, irrespective of the price I have to pay for it. [End recording]

Students Throw Stones, Demonstrate in Bethlehem

TA261221 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Bethlehem University students today began throwing stones at Israeli vehicles near the university and at the main

entrance to the town. The students also demonstrated on campus against the Israeli-Egyptian peace accords, and on the occasion of Land Day. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the IDF set up roadblocks at the entrances to the university.

Contacts Reportedly Under Way To Buy Oil From Nigeria

TA261058 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
26 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Sharoni]

[Excerpt] Israel is considering purchasing oil from Nigeria, which is a member of OPEC, despite the fact that Nigeria does not have diplomatic ties with Israel. This was learned from official sources. Avraham Agmon, director general of the Delek Fuel Company, recently visited Nigeria following Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche's visit there several weeks ago, during which he held talks concerning the possibility of resuming bilateral diplomatic ties.

It appears that Israel will make the purchase of oil conditional on the resumption of diplomatic ties.

Avishay Amir, Energy and Infrastructure Ministry spokesman, said in reaction that the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry is not in the habit of giving details on its various contacts to purchase oil.

The decrease in the price of oil on the world market improves Israel's room for maneuvering in purchasing oil. Israel meets two thirds of its oil needs with purchases from Mexico, Egypt, and Norway, and the rest with "spot" purchases. In recent years Israel has held contacts to purchase oil from other countries, including Venezuela.

LIBYA

Communique Released at End of Brahimi Visit

LD251007 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 24 Mar 86

(Text) Tripoli, 24/03/86 (APS) -- At the end of the official visit paid by Mr. Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the Politburo, prime minister at the head of an Algerian governmental delegation in the Arab Jamahiriya of Libya a press communique was released.

During his intervention at the opening of the meeting, Commander 'Abd Ahmad Jallud recalled the objectives that the political leaderships of the two countries want to achieve, in this case the union as a prelude to the unity of the Arab Maghreb and the Arab nation one. He recalled in this regard the historical civilizational, geographical sectors and the militancy linking the two brother peoples.

Mr. Jallud also dealt with all the questions of common interest. Concerning these latter, the two sides expressed their satisfaction before the convergence of their analyses and points of views. They decided besides to increase programmes and projects in order to meet the aspirations of the two peoples progress. The two sides examined all the accords and proceedings they signed as they finally proceed to the (?signature) of a cooperation agreement.

Further Reaction to U.S. Maneuvers in Gulf of Sidra

Al-Jumayyil Pledges Support

LD261615 Tripoli JANA in English 1440 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 15, March 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Lebanese president, Amin al-Jumayyil, has made a telephone call with the leader enquiring about the development of the situation, stressing that the Lebanese people stands firmly by its brotherly people of the Jamahiriya in confronting U.S. aggression. He adds that the Lebanese people place all its capabilities at the disposal of its brotherly Libyan Arab people, lauding the courageous stand of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and the people of the Jamahiriya in facing up to U.S. aggression.

BBC Cited on U.S. 'Aggression'

LD261234 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1125 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] London, 26 Mar (JANA) — The BBC has quoted senior officials at the U.S. Ministry of War as saying that the United States planned its aggression against Libyan territory 2 months ago. In a news report this morning about the armed American aggression against the Gulf of Sidra, the BBC pointed out that U.S. aircraft were spying on Libyan missile bases during the few past weeks.

In its report, the BBC pointed out the angry demonstrations that have been staged all over Libyan cities in protest against the American aggression and which are a declaration of the challenge of the Libyan Arab people to the hostile American cam-

paigns that are aimed at the Libyan Arab waters, land, and skies. The BBC also expressed a big interest over the declaration of the brother leader to JANA in which he affirmed the continuation of brave Libyan steadfastness and his affirmation that the Jamahiriya is not only defending itself at this moment but defending the Arab nation and its future.

Iran's Khamene'i Pledges Support

LD262155 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2011 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received a telegram from Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in which he stresses that the American aggression against the Arab Libyan people is a continuation of America's evil acts against the peoples struggling for their freedom.

The firm measure taken by the SPLAJ to defend its land is a source of pride cherished by Muslims worldwide, and is also a test for the Libyan Arab people that should consider this as one of its sources of pride in the struggle against American imperialism. This aggression, he further says, constitutes also a test for the Arab and Islamic countries that claim to defend pan-Arabism and the Arab lands.

President Khamene'i says in his telegram that Iran firmly stands on the side of the Libyan Arab people in its confrontation with the American aggression.

Salim Salih Pledges PDRY Support

LD261642 Tripoli JANA in English 1442 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 15, March 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr. Salim Salih, assistant secretary of the ruling Socialist Party in Democratic People's Yemen has this morning telephoned Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, stressing that his country places all its capabilities at the disposal of the Libyan Arab people to courageously confront U.S. aggression, for, he adds, the people of Al-Jamahiriya in this confrontation are defending the integrity and pride of the Arab nation.

Lauding the people of Al-Jamahiriya, Mr. Salim Salih says that the people of Yemen have taken to the streets in protest over this U.S. aggression. He continues that the leadership in Yemen is holding a meeting to evaluate the present situation and continue consultations.

PDRY Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

LD261838 Tripoli JANA in English 1746 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab, Mar 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) issued a statement strongly condemning the U.S. imperialist aggression on the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The statement said that the brave confrontation of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces with U.S. imperialism is a legitimate defence of the Libyan Arab

soil. It confirmed that these aggressive actions have grave consequences upon the situations in the Mediterranean region.

The statement indicated that these acts expose the nature of the hostile U.S. policy towards the Arab nation and the peace-loving nations. Once [words indistinct] the standing and solidarity of PDRY with the people of Jamahiriya in its brave [words indistinct] the U.S. military aggression.

YSP's Al-Bayd Voices Support

LD270918 Tripoli JANA in English 0813 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 16, Mars.27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, the general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) established a telephone contact with the leader of the revolution yesterday enquiring about the developments in the current situation.

YSP's secretary general confirmed the putting of all the capabilities of PDRY's people at the disposal of Jamahiriya in its brave confrontation with U.S. aggression. He highly praised the heroic brave stance of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and its masses in confronting the American aggression.

Palestinians Await Al-Qadhdhafi 'Commands'

LD270333 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0157 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Message from unidentified spokesman of the Palestinian Liberation Front — Interim Command in the Jamahiriya — live or recorded]

[Text] To Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution and secretary of the Pan-Arab Command:

We, in the Palestinian Liberation Front — The Interim Command in the Jamahiriya — not only denounce and condemn the U.S. aggression against the Jamahiriya and its people and revolutionary leadership, but also are at the forefront of those who defend it and fight for every grain of sand and drop of water in the Gulf of Sidra and all the land of the Jamahiriya, which is the homeland of all the Arabs and revolutionaries throughout the world.

We believe this battle is not the Jamahiriya's alone, but is a battle to defend all Arabs, from the ocean to the Gulf, against U.S. aggression and international imperialism, which attempts to violate this nation's honor and dignity. This nation is absolutely ready to teach the invaders an unforgettable lesson. The land of the Jamahiriya will be a cemetery for all the aggressors and enemies.

The struggling peoples always will be victorious, and we are awaiting your commands.

S. Italy Residents Concerned

LD270901 Tripoli JANA in English 0800 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Rome, Rajab 16, Mars.27, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — The majors of both Palermo and Naples cities of southern Italy issued a statement declaring the anxiousness of the two cities' citizens to keep the Mediterranean Sea basin a region of security and peace. In their statement they called for the seizure of any military action in the Mediterranean basin to preserve the safety of its citizens. [sentence as received] They sent a letter in this respect to both the Italian Cabinet and Foreign Ministry.

Sudanese in Surt Condemn U.S. Acts

LD270209 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2313 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Message from spokesman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Committee in Surt — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Brother leader and revolutionary teacher, Mu'ammar:

The Sudanese revolutionary force in Surt strongly condemns the despicable U.S. aggression against our sacred land, and renounces this naval piracy which [words indistinct]. This indicates that the Americans are continuing their injustice [words indistinct]. The aggressors must be punished. God's hands are supporting the hands of the united people.

March forward; we are with you in the same trench until we defeat the aggressors. Al-Fatih forever. The revolutionary struggle continues.

Masses 'Must Ignite Strong Fire'

LD270731 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0040 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The conflicting statements of the U.S. black house [White House] preceded [words indistinct] the American people the U.S. imperialist aggression's true aims against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation.

The black house claimed that the U.S. military pieces stationed in the Mediterranean off the Libyan Arab shores and in the Arab Gulf of Sidra are engaged in maneuvers falling within the framework of regular U.S. military training, and that these maneuvers will continue until the beginning of April, while the U.S. war ministry [U.S. Defense Department] stressed that the U.S. military maneuvers will continue in the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra until the U.S. naval ships conclude their military commissions.

The U.S. war minister's [Secretary of Defense] statement exposes the aggressive intentions and aims and the terrorist missions entrusted to the U.S. Navy and Air Force against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation. The U.S. Administration's

claim that the U.S. Navy aircraft and ships' aggression against the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra is, as they asserted, an act of self-defense, are refuted in view of the fact that the United States has held three military maneuvers opposite the Libyan Arab shores in the Gulf of Sidra in the first 3 months of this year. In the most recent maneuvers, a new aircraft carrier joined the two aircraft carriers that had participated in the preceding military maneuvers, which were strongly opposed by the peoples of the world, even by U.S. allies in Western Europe. [word indistinct] the Libyan Arab people announced their rejection of the U.S. military maneuvers opposite their shores, and stressed their readiness to [words indistinct].

The people's congresses and international congresses, from all the countries of the world, expressed their readiness to become suicide squads to strike at U.S. interests and to destroy the ships of the Navy [words indistinct].

The United States should have obeyed the international will and withdrawn from the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra, which the Jamahiriya declared to be Libyan Arab Gulf in 1973. The Jamahiriya warned against the consequences of entering the gulf and crossing the Line of Death, which determines the borderline between the Jamahiriya's territorial waters and international waters.

But U.S. imperialism, which is extremely hostile to the Arab nation and the Libyan Arab people, insisted on carrying out its military maneuvers for the third time in the Gulf of Sidra during the first quarter of this year. It declared its aggressive intentions against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation by this action.

We would like to emphasize here that the U.S. aggression was not committed at the spur of the moment, and was not, contrary to the U.S. administration's claims, in self-defense. Rather, the U.S. Administration pushed forward three aircraft carriers, carrying more than 250 military aircraft, and pushed forward roughly 50 military vessels into the Gulf of Sidra in a provocative and terrorist demonstration against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation. This also is a challenge to the peoples of the world and a violation of international laws and conventions.

U.S. imperialism's decision to order this huge mass of military vessels to the Gulf of Sidra is viewed as a hostile action and blatant aggression against the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation, and refutes the U.S. claims that its aggression against the Libyan Arab people was in self-defense. Naturally, the Libyan Arab people, together with the free men of the Arab nation, rushed to defend the Arab land and the Arab waters in the Gulf of Sidra.

The Libyan Arab defenses, the Air Force and air defenses, and the Navy, showed great proficiency in combatting the enemy by shooting down three of its aircraft, which fell burning into the bottom of the sea, and in forcing the U.S. invaders to stay off the Line of Death.

The conflicting U.S. statements exposed the U.S. enemy's aggressive plots and aims, and exposed the falsehood of its claims. The U.S. enemy claimed that its military maneuvers in the

Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra are aimed at asserting a right for international navigation in the gulf, but the U.S. Administration, by its iniquitous aggression against one of the suburbs of the city of Surt, has revealed its aggressive aims and proved it used the military maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra as an excuse for an aggression against the Libyan Arab people in retaliation for the defeats the United States suffered in the Arab region and in various regions of the world as a result of the Jamahiriya's revolutionary stance toward the various Pan-Arab and international issues, especially as the Libyan Arab people's revolutionary pan-Arab stance has foiled the U.S. schemes to liquidate the Palestinian issue and subjugate the Arab homeland to U.S.-Zionist influence. The Libyan Arab people's revolutionary stance toward the treacherous Camp David agreement is the greatest influence in obstructing that agreement and halting its spread in the Arab homeland, and in aborting the projects of normalization between the [word indistinct] and the Zionists.

The Egyptian Arab people declared their rejection of, and opposition to, all forms of normalization that all the sides of Camp David try to impose upon them. The Egyptian Arab people expressed this rejection by bullets and blood and by the huge demonstrations that spread throughout Egypt expressing the Egyptian Arab people's rejection of the Zionist presence in their country, and of the regime's attempts to impose the projects of normalization on Egyptian life.

U.S. imperialism, whose conspiratorial plots against the Arab nation have failed abominably, understands well that the Libyan Arab people's revolutionary stance toward pan-Arab issues and their firm stand in the face of these plots is one of the major effective factors in the Arab-Zionist conflict, in the issue of the Arab struggle for liberation from the ties of Camp David, in the escalation of the armed struggle against the Zionist enemy, and in the rejection of all forms of U.S. influence and hegemony in the Arab homeland.

The U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab people stems from this, which is a retaliation for the defeat that was inflicted on its plots and conspiratorial projects against the Arab nation. The U.S. aggression against the Libyan Arab people is an aggression against the whole Arab nation and is aimed at the Arab nation's security, freedom, and sovereignty over its land and greater Arab homeland. Therefore, according to the principle of self-defense, the masses of the great Arab nation must shoulder their responsibility in the battle of dignity and of Arab survival, and they must ignite a strong fire against the United States and its interests in the greater Arab homeland. They must prove, by their armed struggle, that they belong to the great Arab nation, which created the civilizations and victories. They are capable of dragging the ugly U.S. face into the mud, and they have all the means to defeat the U.S. aggression against the Arab Gulf of Sidra, and to force the United States to obey the Arab will and to respect the great Arab nation.

If the Arab workers achieved a great victory for the Arab nation against U.S. imperialism during the incident of the Arab ship *Cleopatra*, [not further specified] and through their brave stance against the U.S. ships and aircraft they forced the U.S. President at that time to bow to the Arab will and to apologize for the U.S.

position against the Arab ship, then the Arab masses will be able to force the present U.S. Administration and its chief, the failed actor, Reagan, to obey the Arab will today. The masses have all the means to do this. They can boycott U.S. goods and products; they can strike at and destroy the imperialist interests; and they can boycott U.S. ships and aircraft. This is considered as [words indistinct] the Arab land, and it is the only means for [words indistinct] and protecting the Arab land and existence, and for forcing the United States to respect the Arabs and their will, so that it recognizes the price of arrogance and aggression and to pay the price for them.

Arab League Resolution Criticized

GF270854 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (QNA) — 'Umran Hammudah, Libyan assistant secretary of the General People's Congress for Foreign Liaison and head of the Libyan delegation to the meetings of the Arab League Council, has expressed some satisfaction "with the resolution adopted by the Arab League Council condemning the U.S. aggression against Libya." He said, however, that he is not totally satisfied with the resolution.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* published today, he revealed that the draft resolution included in its original form two clauses that were removed as a result of opposition by some delegations. He said that one of the two clauses requires the imposition of a total economic boycott on the United States while the other provides for severance of diplomatic relations with it.

He said that during the discussion of the draft resolution, the heads of three delegations frankly announced that they could not comply with these two demands, which made him announce his country's willingness to concede these two clauses so that the resolution might be approved.

Muhammad al-Zawi, the resident Libyan minister in Morocco, has stated that the U.S. aggression in the Gulf of Sidra cannot be possibly caused by a difference of opinion on a disputed issue of international law since such differences are dealt with by legal methods.

In a similar statement to *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I*, he said that the U.S. aggression is in reality aimed at silencing any voice that opposes U.S. policy in the region. He said that the proof of this is that the units of the U.S. 6th Fleet did not restrict the confrontation to the sea but expanded their aggression to include the Libyan mainland, which is not subject to a disagreement.

Al-Zawi accused the U.S. Administration of carrying out predetermined provocation by holding repeated maneuvers in a short period of time opposite the Libyan shores, as well as intentionally passing latitude parallel 32, which Libya has defined as the limit of its territorial waters, in order to drag Libya into a confrontation.

Al-Qadhafi Receives Malta's Bonnici, Discuss U.S.

LD262145 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2011 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] This afternoon the brother leader of the revolution received Maltese Prime Minister Karmenu Mifsud Bonnici. The meeting was attended by brother Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee. The Maltese prime minister enquired about the current situation and the U.S. military provocations against the Jamahiriya.

The prime minister expressed the support of the Maltese Government and people for the Arab Libyan people in their brave confrontation with U.S. aggression. The meeting also dealt with the initiative of the Republic of Malta for convening the Security Council to examine the U.S. aggression.

The views of the two sides were identical over the idea that the Mediterranean is divided into economic zones between the states bordering it, and the fact that these zones are full of economic activity, such as transportation, fishing, and exploration for oil and gas, in addition to the existence of pipelines and communication lines, and that military activity and military maneuvers cause damage to these activities. Their views were also identical on the need for the states bordering the Mediterranean to combine their efforts to turn it into a lake of peace, and a useful economic activity in the service of the states bordering it.

Bonnici Leaves Tripoli

LD270924 Tripoli JANA in English 0818 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 16, March 27, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — Mr Carmenu Mifsud Bonnici, the Maltese prime minister, left Tripoli yesterday evening. Engineer Jadallah Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee and Kamil Hasan al-Mansur the secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau bid him farewell at Tripoli international airport.

Festivities Planned To Mark Closure of UK Bases

LD270511 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The great festivities of the 16th anniversary of the evacuation of the British colonial bases, which desecrated the Libyan Arab territories and which were used to strike at the Arab nation, will commence this evening. The evacuation of the colonial bases was a severe blow to British colonialism and a strong slap on the ugly face of imperialism and the hirelings and reactionaries.

The festivities will culminate this evening with the lighting of the Evacuation Torch at Algeria Place in Tripoli. The masses of the Basic People's Congresses and the various popular and student sectors will participate in these festivities.

SUDAN

Dafallah on Proposal To Improve Ties With Ethiopia

JN262106 Khartoum SUNA in English 1733 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 26, (SUNA) — Premier Al-Jazuli Dafallah expressed his readiness to work for the success of a proposal, exposed by a Sudanese politician, aims at improving Sudanese-Ethiopian relations. Leader of Islamic Socialist Party Dr. Nasir al-Sayyid, who contacted the Ethiopian authorities, met with Dr. Dafallah here yesterday in this regard.

(The initiative is based on a national charter aim at boosting relations between the two neighbouring countries) Al-Sayyid said, adding that the charter stipulates the consent of all political parties and national forces to lay down a strategy in the Sudanese-Ethiopian relations.

Dr. Al-Sayyid had represented his party in the talks took place recently at Koka (Ethiopia) between the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country (NASC) and Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement (SPLM) but he had withdrawn from the talks protesting the participation of Numayri's former Foreign Minister Dr. Mansur Khalid.

Cabinet Statement Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

JN261842 Khartoum SUNA in English 1810 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 26, (SUNA) — Sudan has strongly condemned the U.S. aggression on Libya and declared the Sudanese people backing to the Libyan people. A statement issued by the Cabinet here today reaffirmed the Sudan firm stance with the Libyan people on the base of the Islamic Conference resolution issued last January in Fez and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution issued current March.

The two resolutions give Libya a legitimate right to defend her territorial land, space and regional waters. Sudan, from this point, considers Gulf of Sidra as under the complete sovereignty of Libya, read the statement. On the other hand, the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Country (NASC) denounced, in a statement released here Wednesday, the U.S. aggression on the Libyan people.

The statement, moreover, called upon the government to take a solid stance in this concern. It, also, appealed the Sudanese people to reject the American hegemony, which aims always at creating an atmosphere of tension in the region.

The U.S. fighters taking off from the 6th Fleet, which is maneuvering of the Libyan shores, had sunk two Libyan patrolships and hit a missile base near Surt town last Monday according to a U.S. spokesman official statement.

Lawyers Call for Strikes Against U.S. Interests

JN261921 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1810 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Mar (SUNA) — The Sudanese Bar Association has held the United States responsible for threatening international security and escalating military provocations against Libya. Lawyers doyen Mirghani al-Nasir said in a statement to the press that the United States, leader of international terrorism, escalated its provocations against fraternal Libya. This direct military aggression is represented by striking at Libyan regional territory and waters.

The doyen added that the bar association not only calls for condemning U.S. imperialism but also calls on the Sudanese and Arab masses to defeat imperialism by striking at its interests in the Arab region.

The doyen said that the Sudanese Bar Association will prepare the Sudanese people to practically and directly support the Libyan people in their defense of the homeland's sovereignty and Arab dignity. He said that the international community should shoulder its responsibility and stop this tampering with international norms and laws.

Islamic Socialist Party Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

JN261900 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Mar (SUNA) — The Islamic Socialist Party has strongly condemned the criminal U.S. aggression against fraternal Libya, stressing that this is not an aggression against Libya alone but against the entire Arab region. In a statement issued today, the party stressed that it firmly stands against this brutal aggression and that it supports the Libyan people in their legitimate struggle to secure their coast and safeguard their sovereignty over their regional territory and waters.

The party called for declaring a state of emergency and general mobilization as well as opening doors for recruiting people to defend the Libyan people.

Defense Minister Denies Wau Surrounded by SPLM

JN270949 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 27 (SUNA) — Defence Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah yesterday denied that Bahr al-Ghazal capital, Wau, is surrounded by SPLM forces. The Armed Forces are in full control over the situation in southern Sudan, he said. 'Abdallah was commenting on a story despatched by AFP quoting arrivals from southern Sudan that SPLM has encircled Wau.

National Alliance Official on Talks With SPLM

JN261804 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Mar (SUNA) — Dr Khalid Yagi, leader of the National Alliance delegation to the talks with the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], has announced that the agreements reached by the two parties at the Ethiopia talks will

be discussed by the National Alliance. He expressed hope that the parties outside the alliance will take these agreements seriously.

Dr Yagi added that many things have been achieved in the dialogue. The date and arrangements for the constitutional conference to be held in Khartoum have been defined. He expressed his conviction that many obstacles to the dialogue can be removed. He pointed out that the September and emergency laws can be canceled, the agreements with foreign countries do not necessarily bind people to achieve peace, and the form of the future government, which is a point of difference with the SPLM, can be resolved by continuing the dialogue.

Dr Yagi said that despite the short period of time left to the military council and the Cabinet, the decisions adopted by the alliance will be submitted to the Cabinet to explain the efforts made for peace. Dr Yagi noted that the alliance feels that the SPLM and John Garang are very serious. He added that Garang affirmed his concern for the unity of Sudan and that he had rejected ousted President Numayri's call for him to become his first deputy.

Dr Yagi stressed that the alliance was surprised at the inclusion of Dr Mansur Khalid, a former politician, in the SPLM delegation. He said that the alliance expressed its opposition to his participation in light of his previous role in serving the regime of the ousted Numayri. He said that what has been achieved is considered a big step because this was the first dialogue in which the alliance participated — a dialogue in which the parties were represented and which was thoroughly prepared for. He added that Eng 'Awadh al-Karim Muhammad Ahmad, secretary general of the alliance and the secretariat, stayed in Addis Ababa to complete the documents of the agreement.

Garang Says SPLM Rejects Partial Elections

JN261946 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum March, 26 (SUNA) — Leader of Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement SPLM Col. John Garang has reiterated his movement rejection to any partial elections in the country. Mr. Garang said the elections, which is scheduled to start on the first of the coming April in some part of the southern Sudan because of the security situation there, aims at isolating the southern Sudan and preventing it from a national right.

The daily *Al-SAHFAH* published here today quoted Garang as saying SPLM is not merely seeking war, but it aims at achieving and ambitious targets connected with building a new Sudan. Garang urged all the political factions in the country to take part in the proposed constitutional conference which will tackle the problems of the Sudan.

He went on criticizing the holding of the conference after the elections reaffirming that the conference ought to precede the elections till achieving its targets. Garang added that the SPLM

will carry on war against the current government and the coming one resulted from the partial elections.

SPLA Denies Sudan Allegations of Ethiopian Arms Supply *EA262219 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The official spokesman of the SPLA-SPLM high command has condemned the report carried by the Sudanese information organs last week to the effect that the Ethiopian government has violated Sudanese airspace and that aircraft of the Ethiopian Air Force have transported ammunition and provisions to the SPLA camps deep inside Sudanese territory.

The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman said that these accusations and allegations, disseminated by the Sudanese Government, are unfounded. He said the SPLA-SPLM has absolutely no knowledge of aircraft transporting provisions to it, either from the Ethiopian Government or any other state. The spokesman of the SPLA-SPLM High Command added that SPLA forces, which are an army waging guerrilla warfare, do not possess vehicles, except those that they captured recently from the Sudanese Government in the Upper Nile and Bahr al-Ghazal areas. They transport their provisions on foot.

The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman went on to say that the acuteness of the internal contradictions in Sudan and the TMC's inability to resolve these contradictions and problems compel the council to direct false accusations at its neighbors in order to justify their failure to confront the country's fundamental problems. The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman went on to say that the ill-intentioned ruling TMC does not want to relinquish power. Therefore, it is striving to create excuses to remain in power. So, it is trying to make the Sudanese people believe that there is an emergency situation and foreign intervention that demands the continuation of the generals hold on power.

The official spokesman of the SPLA High Command stressed that these tendencies on the part of the TMC are reflected in the statements made by its leaders. General Taj al-Din al-Sirr recently made a statement about the need to form a national government after the elections. He said that some members of the TMC would be retired. Others would remain in the army. The official spokesman of the SPLA high command asked whether the TMC was entitled to speak about what would happen after the elections.

In his statement, the official spokesman of the SPLA High Command expressed his strong belief in the ability of the Sudanese people who unleashed two great revolutions during the course of two decades, to wrest power from the hands of the generals. In conclusion, the official spokesman of the SPLA High Command called on the Sudanese Army to expose the TMC's designs, to strive to topple it and to adhere to the aims of the popular revolution.

ETHIOPIA

Nation Condemns U.S. 'Attack' on Libya

EA261904 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1700 GMT 26 MAR 86

[Text] Revolutionary Ethiopia has strongly condemned the U.S. Administration's military aggression against Libya in violation of international law. It called on the peace-loving and democratic forces of the world to put pressure on the administration so that it will refrain from such actions. Revolutionary Ethiopia made this call today in a Foreign Ministry statement on the United States' aggression against Libya last Monday.

The statement also expressed Ethiopia's firm support for and solidarity with the people and Government of Libya. It pointed out that everybody could see that the U.S. Administration had been planning to carry out an act of overt aggression against Libya for some time. It called on the United States to halt this illegal action, which has jeopardized peace and stability in North Africa and the Mediterranean area.

The statement recalled that on 29 January 1986, Revolutionary Ethiopia issued a statement condemning the tension created by the United States' acts of provocation, its military exercises, and the movements of the 6th Fleet aimed at attacking Libya. In the statement, Revolutionary Ethiopia noted that America's action could lead to serious military confrontation in the region. It called on the United States to halt the provocative military exercises, which were aimed against Libya's territorial integrity and dignity.

The Foreign Ministry statement pointed out that since then the U.S. Administration has not only continued its provocative acts but has carried out military action against Libyan ships and installations. It noted that the U.S. Government's plan to attack Libya has become clear.

Defense Minister Denies Sudanese Airspace Violated

NC261937 Paris AFP in English 1923 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 26 (AFP)— Ethiopia on Wednesday rejected as "unfounded" a charge by Sudanese Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad that Ethiopian fighter aircraft had violated Sudanese air space to support rebels in the south of the country.

General 'Abdallah said on Monday that Ethiopian MIG-23 fighters and Antonov-12 transport planes had flown over Southern Sudan in support of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

This had amounted to "direct intervention on behalf of the SPLA," he added.

Gen. 'Abdallah was also reported to have said that his country had made an official protest to Ethiopia over the incident.

He warned that his country might invoke its 1976 defence pact with Egypt as a result of the alleged incursion.

In a reaction which observers here saw as mild, the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry said it was "not to be ruled out" that the allegation was provoked by "some elements in the Sudanese Government" opposed to efforts to improve relations between Ethiopia and Sudan.

It was to be regretted that the accusation came at a time when Ethiopia was engaged in a bid to help the Sudanese people overcome their differences, the statement added.

This was a reference to peace talks which Ethiopia hosted last week between an influential grouping of Sudanese political parties and trade unions, and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement — the SPLA's political wing.

The five days of talks in the town of Koka ended on Monday with the two sides agreeing in principle to hold a national constitutional conference in Khartoum in June, with the aim of ending the civil war in Southern Sudan and to resolve the country's other internal problems.

SOMALIA

Si'ad Barre Thanks PRC for Rescheduling Loan

EA262221 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Somali President Challe Muhammad Si'ad Barre today exploited the mass media to issue a warm commendation to the party, state organs, the armed forces, and the general masses of Somalia who participated in the cordial reception extended to PRC President Mr Li Xiannian, his wife, and his important delegation.

Somali President Challe Muhammad Si'ad Barre further said that the PRE Government has decided to reschedule loans made to Somalia to finance some projects until Somalia's current economic difficulties have been surmounted. The Somali president said that the PRC Government has also made a long-term loan at zero interest to Somalia and has also granted assistance to orphanages.

Opposition Front Elects Chairman, Adopts Resolutions

EA261356 (Clandestine) Radio Hagan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The Second Congress of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] concluded its work at the second headquarters of the DFSS this evening. After the congress, which was in progress for 6 days, there was a routine meeting such as has been held by the Front during its 8 years of existence.

The congress, which took place in an atmosphere of consultation, maturity and stability, issued resolutions which, God willing, are expected to speed up the victory of the struggle. The Second Congress [word indistinct] elected Dr Hasan Ali Mireh the

chairman of the Front. Dr Hasan Ali Mireh, who was one of the founders of DFSS, graduated from Princeton University, New Jersey, United States, where he read political science. The Second Congress of the DFSS also approved the Central Committee members of the DFSS, who number 43 including the chairman. Listeners, we shall read their names to you after the news.

The Second Congress of the DFSS which sat 19-25 March adopted the following resolutions:

1. The expansion of the political recognition of the DFSS.
2. The unification of the Somali opposition forces, particularly the (?realization) of the unifying of the two groups of the Somali National Movement and DFSS, and generally the unification of the other [word indistinct] of the Somali people.
3. To win the support of the Somali masses who are in favor of the struggle.
4. The DFSS warns the governments who support the dictatorial regime in Mogadishu.
5. Amnesty for all political detainees and ordinary prisoners of the DFSS.
6. To issue an appeal to international relief organizations on behalf of Somali refugees.
7. Amnesty for combatants who left the front and who committed no crimes against the struggle.
8. The Front supports the governments of the Arab Jamahiriya of Libya and Nicaragua and is opposed to the provocations and aggression of U.S. imperialism.
9. The DFSS expresses gratitude to the governments which [word indistinct] the struggle of the DFSS politically and militarily.
10. The DFSS also supports the struggle and movements fighting for justice all over the world.
11. The congress expresses gratitude to all members who contributed to the successful conclusion of the Second DFSS Congress.

Elects Central Committee

EA261405 (Clandestine) Radio Hagan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia Second Congress has named members of the Central Committee. Their names are as follows:

1. Dr Hasan Haji Ali Mireh, chairman;
2. Muhammad Abshir (Welde), Mahmud Muse Hirs (Adde), Abdullahi Muhammad Gedi [last name indistinct], Ahmad Jama Abdille (Biriye), Ali Adan Abdulle, Dr Bashir Ali Bihi, Abdullahi Maalin Warsame (Bidaar), (?Engineer) Ismail Haji Warsame, Ahmad Tahlil Dore, Hasan Yusuf Ali (Galabey), Mahmud Shidane Guled (Jogof), Ahmad Dahir (Afrah), Abd al-Aziz (Nogal), Ali Nur Muhammad Ahmad, (Afar) Hasan Dama [last name indistinct], [name indistinct] Ali (?Yushay), Abd al-Razak Umar (Hashi), Muse Shaykh Mahmud Siyad, Muhammad Ismail Baribari, Nur Adan Yusuf, Abdullahi Muhammad [other names indistinct], Mahmud [other names indistinct], Muhammad Issa (Askar), Yasin [other names indistinct], Abd al-Razak ali Haji, Hirs Bulhan Farah, Dr Yasin Sufi Husayn, Abdullahi Haji Elmi, Abd al-Rahman Shire Warsame, Muhammad Nur Muhammad (Balile), Suleyman Dahir Afqarshe, Abdullahi Muse Aw-Ali, Abdi Yusuf Riyaleh, Abd al-Rahman Haji Dirye, Adan Shaykhdon Ali, Mahmud Abdi Ali (Bay), Muhammad

Farah Jumale, Abdullahi Jama Kulmiye, Yasin Haji Mhmud Abdilleh, Umar Salad Elmi, Abd al-Razak Shakh Ahmad Ali, and Abdullahi Haji Ahmad (Hadde).

UGANDA

Museveni Announces New Public Appointments

LD261330 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has made the following appointments. They take immediate effect:

Permanent secretary in the Office of the President and head of the Public Service: Mr (H. Obow);
Secretary for administration in the Office of the President: Mr (Henry Balo);
Permanent secretary, Office of the Prime Minister: Mr (Rangirana);
Secretary to the Cabinet: Mr (Baruzi);
Permanent secretary in the Ministry of Public Service and Current Affairs: Mr Wilson Wanyama;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Public Service and Cabinet Affairs Special Duties: Mr (Serwanja);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Industry and Technology: Mr (Ahmed Katumba);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Cooperatives and Marketing: Mr (Rutega);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Lands and Survey: Mr (Bakashaba Ruhanga);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Environment: Mr (Nganwa);
Clerk to the National Assembly: Mr (Ochuol);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development: Mr (Tusimi Mutevile);
Solicitor general: Mr Francis Ayume;
Secretary for defense: Mr (A. Karugaba);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development: Mr (Mutwatwa);
The secretary to the Public Service Commission: Mr (Walusimbi);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Work: Mr (Jay Chobe);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Regional Cooperation: Mr (Kesi Nyakimwe);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry: Mr (Ofwono);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Internal Affairs: (Katamba Lujjo);
Permanent secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Mr Kasirye;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting: Mr Ben Otto;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Health: Dr Kinene;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife: Mr Dramadri;
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports: Mr (Henry Balamaze Lwanga);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Animal Industry and Fisheries: Dr (Masava);
Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Communications: Mr (A. Okumu);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Labor: Mr (Peter Ochang);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Energy: Mr (Opika Opoka);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Commerce: Mr J. Kige;

The secretary to the Treasury: Mr (Kahoza);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Rehabilitation: Mr (C. Rwanika);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Local Government: Mr (Gasasira);

Permanent secretary to the Ministry of Water and Mineral Development: Mrs (Opiyo).

Permanent secretaries whose names do not appear on this list will be assigned other duties in due course.

NRM Official, Prime Minister Address Rally

*EA262234 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT
24 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] The vice chairman of the National Resistance Movement [NRM], Mr Moses Kigongo, has urged the people of Uganda to support the NRM ideals by electing resistance committees which are the basis of restoring peace in the country. He,

however, cautioned them against electing people on political and religious grounds. He said the government welcomes everyone as long as he or she is a good person. Mr Kigongo, who was addressing a mammoth rally in Iganga Town, assured the people of Iganga that the government will do everything possible to ensure that peace returns and is maintained throughout the country. He urged the people to be patient and to preserve [as heard] as efforts are being made to improve the situation.

The vice-chairman warned the people against using resistance committees to mete out judgement on suspected criminals. He said committees have no power of executing anybody. He also cautioned the committees against engaging in acts of corruption like taking bribes. Mr Kigongo warned the people who want to take advantage of any confusion that their time had run out and they should stop it immediately.

The rally was also addressed by Prime Minister Kisekka, who called on Ugandans to unite, saying that in unity Ugandans will be able to tap the country's numerous resources which had been neglected by previous governments since independence. The prime minister asked all Ugandans to love the young boys and girls of the NRA [National Resistance Army] and who liberated them.

CAR

French Plane Crashes in Capital 27 Mar, 20 Killed*AB271052 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Bangui, March 27 (AFP) — Around 20 people died here on Thursday when a French Jaguar fighter plane crashed onto a populated neighbourhood in Bangui, capital of the Central African Republic, it was reported here. The plane was said to have crashed 5 kilometres (2 miles) from the city centre on a poor neighbourhood.

France has bases in Central Africa with which it has a defence pact. The country borders Chad, where French planes have also been based since February.

The Defence Ministry in Paris confirmed the report, saying the plane had crashed due to a technical problem on take-off from an airstrip in Bangui. The pilot had been able to eject from the aircraft, and was injured, the ministry statement said.

It confirmed however that a number of Africans had been killed when the plane crashed, without giving any casualty figures. An inquiry has been opened into the causes of the crash, the French statement said.

CHAD

Habre Presides Over First Meeting of New Cabinet*AB262109 Ndjama Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The first meeting of the new government formed on 23 March 1986 was held this morning. President Hisssein Habre received all the new Cabinet members this morning at the meeting designed to get in touch with them. During the meeting, the head of state briefed the third Government of the Third Republic on the economic and political situation of the country.

In fact, the meeting which only lasted 1 hour, from 1000 to 1100, was not meant for a thorough analysis of the situation. The head of state, however, made it a point to set the guidelines of this government's action, in view of the war situation which the country is facing due to Libya's permanent aggression, and of the

struggle to be carried out on the economic front to lead Chad out of its (?underdevelopment).

Habre, Lassou Meet With Nigerian Foreign Minister*AB262131 Ndjama Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The president of the Republic, El-Hadj Hisssein Habre, received Nigerian Minister of External Relations Bolaji Akinyemi this morning for over an hour. Mr Akinyemi was leading a delegation of his country. Present at the audience were Gouara Lassou, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Chad's ambassador to Nigeria, his excellency Youssouf Mbani, and Ahmed (Nissami), senior private secretary of the president of the Republic. The bilateral relations between Chad and Nigeria and the current burning issues were at the center of the talks which the Nigerian diplomat held with President Habre.

Mr Akinyemi stated that Nigeria was closely watching developments in the political situation in Chad. He (?held the view) that the national reconciliation process must be fostered by all means. This is what he told Radio Chad: [passage indistinct].

CONGO

GUNT Delegation Arrives in Brazzaville*AB261758 Paris AFP in French 1725 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Brazzaville, 26 Mar (AFP) — A delegation of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT, armed opposition to Ndjama) arrived in Brazzaville today shortly after 1600 local time (1500 GMT).

Facho Balaam, GUNT "minister" of foreign affairs, is leading the delegation which arrived on board an Aeroflot aircraft from Tripoli. The delegation, which includes in particular Mahamat Louani, GUNT's secretary general, was received by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, a Chadian source said.

According to this source, GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei will only arrive in Brazzaville tomorrow afternoon and not today as it was previously announced. Also expected tomorrow afternoon are Chadian President Hisssein Habre and OAU chairman and Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf.

BENIN

Party Statement Supports Libya, Condemns U.S.

*AB270932 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT
27 Mar 86*

["Statement" issued in Cotonou by the Political Bureau of the People's Revolution Party of Benin's Central Committee on 26 March following reports of American and Libyan military clashes in the Gulf of Sidra — read by Martin Dohou Azonhiho, member of the Political Bureau]

[Text] Statement by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin [PRPB]: Since Monday, 24 March 1986, the air and maritime space of the Gulf of Sidra, off the coast of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, has been the scene of American and Libyan military clashes which dangerously threaten peace and security in this part of the Mediterranean and forces the whole of mankind to the disturbing risk of a conflagration with incalculable consequences.

In the face of the extreme gravity of such a situation, the Political Bureau of the PRPB Central Committee, after an extraordinary meeting held today, Wednesday 26 March 1986, has decided to publish the following statement:

In imperialism's hegemonic strategy of colonial reconquest designed to stop the people's fight for freedom, and perpetuate its domination of them, military force in time of peace constitutes the means periodically used by imperialism to intimidate states and subvert their legitimate desire for independence by continually letting hang over them the specter of military intervention, which has no other objective than to maintain an international political order which favors the devilish aims of the forces of evil and the powers (?that be).

It is within this context that one must understand the recent renewal of the maneuvers of the U.S. Sixth Fleet off the Libyan coast, that is, in that part of the Mediterranean and the northern subregion of our continent which is at the center of the destabilizing designs of imperialist and Zionist forces. By resorting to force and deliberate acts of provocation, the U.S. Administration did not exercise wisdom and level-headedness which should have characterized the action of a superpower that is a permanent member of the UN Security Council, whose noble mission is to see to the safeguarding of peace and international security.

The Beninese people, their vanguard party, the PRPB, and their revolutionary state, which bitterly experienced imperialist armed aggression on Sunday 16 January 1977, express their total and unwavering support to the courageous Libyan Arab people in these difficult and trying moments imposed on them by the imperialist and revanchist aggressor. They call for the active solidarity of all freedom and peace-loving people to resolutely oppose the destabilization attempts of which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is the victim.

The Political Bureau of the PRPB's Central Committee warmly hails the courage and unflinching determination of the enterpris-

ing Libyan Arab people, and expresses its profound conviction that under the guide of its leader, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the Al-Fatih Revolution, they will overcome the criminal aggression perpetrated against his great and beautiful country.

Ready for the revolution! The struggle continues!

Issued in Cotonou on 26 March 1986, by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee

BURKINA FASO

Heads of State Arrive for CEAO, ANAD Summits

*AB261455 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] The 11th summit of the CEAO [West African Economic Community], the 4th summit of the Liptako-Gourma Authority and that of the ANAD [Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement] will open this afternoon in Ouagadougou, after the summits of Bamako in 1984. All the heads of state of the countries involved have arrived in our capital. After the Niger prime minister, Presidents Kerekou of Benin and Ould Taya of Mauritania who arrived yesterday afternoon, the militant people of the capital this morning welcomed Presidents Moussa Traore of Mali, Abdou Diouf of Senegal, and Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast. They were all received upon their arrival by Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution] and president of republic. Our august visitors were warmly cheered by thousands of militants during their drive through the major streets from the Ouagadougou International Airport to the Kilimande Hotel where they are staying.

CEAO Summit Opens

*HK270426 Hong Kong AFP in English 0414 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Ouagadougou, March 27 (AFP) — Austerity measures imposed in the past 18 months have "renovated" the West African Economic Community (CEAO) and turned it into "a new body", outgoing Chairman Thomas Sankara, the leader of Burkina Faso, told opening of the 11th summit here Wednesday night.

He also noted that one of his country's revolutionary people's tribunals had this week started the trial of two former senior CEAO officials and an ex-minister from Ivory Coast on charges of embezzling six billion CFA francs (15 million dollars) from the community.

The summit of the seven-nation group started five months late, after a period of relative paralysis. Ministers preparing the agenda last week have itemized major proposals for shaking up the community's lately lethargic solidarity and intervention development fund, conference sources said. Member countries had given assurances that arrears to the fund would be settled up now, they said.

Malian Nominated for Secretary General*AB271057 Dakar PANA in English 1051 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Text] Ouagadougou, 27 March (PANA) — M. Mamadou Haidara from Mali has been nominated as the new secretary general of the West African Economic Community [CEAO].

Revolutionary People's Tribunal Hearings Postponed*AB261536 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] The resumption of hearings at the 15th session of the Revolutionary People's Tribunal [TPR] of Ouagadougou, scheduled to take place today at 1500 has been postponed until tomorrow morning at 0900 at the Ouagadougou Palace of Justice, according to a communique issued by the chairman of the TPR.

GHANA**Death Sentences Announced for Coup Plotters***AB262048 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The public tribunal today sentenced Alhaji Abubakar Musah and one Abdulai, who is at large, to death by firing squad on charges of attempting to overthrow the government. A third accused person, Ambrose Kofi Twumasi Afriyie, was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. The sentence takes effect from the day of his arrest in 1983. According to the tribunal, enough evidence has been established to show that the accused persons conspired to overthrow the government.

Liberia's Blamo: Relations 'Still Warm'*AB261048 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] The Liberian minister for foreign affairs, Dr J. Bernard Blamo, has said that the cordial relations between Ghana and Liberia are still warm. Furthermore, both countries are committed to freedom and the economic welfare of their peoples. Dr Blamo, who is leading a 3-man delegation to the 2-day extraordinary session of the OAU Ministerial Council meeting which opens in Addis Ababa on Sunday, was speaking to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport during a day's stopover last night in Accra. He said the conference will study a report by the OAU secretariat on economic issues which is to be presented at the UN session in May. Dr Blamo said the conference will also appeal to developed countries to assist African nations in their economic problems.

On the present situation in Liberia, Dr Blamo conceded that there are serious economic problems in the country. This is because of a sharp fall in the price of exportable products like rubber, coffee, and cocoa. However, Dr Blamo said, the government has adopted stringent measures including cuts in wages and salaries, and the privatization of a number of business concerns.

On the political situation, the minister said the recent agitation in the country shows a new trend of political evolution taking place in the country. He, however, said that some of the agitations are politically motivated.

At the airport to welcome him were the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and the Liberian ambassador in Ghana, Mr David Wilson.

LIBERIA**Minister Blamo On Way To Addis Ababa OAU Meeting***AB261020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] A 3-man Liberian delegation headed by the minister of foreign affairs, J. Bernard Blamo, is on its way for the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, to attend an extraordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers scheduled for 30 to 31 March. The delegation, which departed Monrovia yesterday, includes the assistant minister of foreign affairs, Thomas Eestman, and the assistant foreign minister for afro-asian affairs, Mr William Bruce.

The extraordinary session is a preparatory meeting aimed at formulating an African position for discussions at the UN special meeting on the critical economic situation in Africa scheduled to convene in May this year.

From Addis Ababa, Foreign Minister Blamo will visit the Republic of Egypt from 1 to 3 April, and later proceed to Rome, Italy, through 7 April. In both countries, Minister Blamo will hold bilateral discussions with officials of governments of the respective countries in the interest of government.

Opposition Lawyers Protest Probation Writ*AB261055 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Three lawyers representing the joint coalition of three opposition parties in Liberia have requested Supreme Court Justice in Chambers, L.O. Djangabab, to dismiss the petition for a writ of probation against the parties. They said the allegations that their planned rally was intended to form a coalition to cause chaos, disarray, confusion, incite and inflame the minds of the public, and likely to result into violence for the sole purpose of troubling the government and endangering the economic stability of the country, is an outright deception intended to use the Supreme Court to frustrate democratic process in the country.

According to the respondents' returns filed to the Supreme Court, the lawyers representing the Liberia Action Party, the Unity Party, and the Liberia Unification Party said the allegation was also intended to merely point fingers at the members of the coalition. The truth, they said, is that no reasonable mind equipped with full knowledge of the activities of these decent law-abiding citizens in Liberia, or anywhere in the civilized world, could by any imagination associate them with violence, noting that they had formed a coalition and not a coalition party.

The lawyers also noted that the National Democratic Party of Liberia has held mass political rallies all over the country without interference, and therefore, according to them, to bar respondents from holding similar rallies amounts to a violation of the right to equal protection of the law as guaranteed under Article 11 C of the Constitution.

Independent Paper Fined for Unaccredited Report

AB261430 Paris AFP in English 0848 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 26 (AFP) — The independent Liberian newspaper, *THE MIRROR*, was fined 200 dollars Tuesday [25 March] for "failing to credit" the state-run LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY (LINA) with a statement the newspaper published

Saturday [22 March]. The fine was imposed by the seven-member Liberian Senate committee which is probing the causes of a student rampage last week.

THE MIRROR had published a dispatch from LINA which said the Senate committee had blamed parents for "failing to impact discipline" in the children and teachers for "instigating students to revolt."

The Senate committee, headed by former opposition member Tuan Wreh of the Liberia Action Party, denied the LINA dispatch and has asked the agency's director-general Edward Davis to show cause why he and his editor-general should not be held in contempt for "misquoting" the panel.

ANGOLA

Over 89 'Armed Bandits' Killed in Recent Operations

*MB251534 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 25 Mar 86*

[Text] The soldiers of the national army have annihilated more than 89 UNITA armed bandits during offensive actions carried out in the 10th, 6th, and 3d military regions over the last few days.

An authorized military source said in Luanda that a further seven criminals were captured, as were large quantities of weapons and war material.

ANGOP quotes this source as saying about 150 light and heavy weapons, 6 radio transmitters, (?) anti-personnel mine, and cartridges, knapsacks, water flasks, raincoats, and several (camping tents) were captured.

According to the source, these FAPLA actions were carried out in the provinces of Lunda Norte, Lunda Sul, Cuando Cubango, and Moxico.

LESOTHO

Maseru Reports Botha-Lekhanya Talks in Cape Town

*MB270739 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, His Excellency Maj. Gen. Metsing Lekhanya, held discussions with the president of South Africa, Mr P.W. Botha, in Cape Town today. In a joint statement issued by Mr P.W. Botha, state president of the RSA, and Maj. Gen. J.M. Lekhanya, chairman of the Military Council of the Kingdom of Lesotho, the leaders welcomed the opportunity to meet and discuss important matters of mutual interest and concern to the two governments.

They emphasized their adherence to the principles of mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, and reaffirmed that they will not allow their territories to be used for the planning and execution of acts of terrorism against the other.

They also reaffirmed the necessity for cooperation in the interests of the people of both countries, and agreed that lasting peace and stability are of primary importance for the economic development, not only of their two countries, but also of the southern African region as a whole. To this end, their governments will examine practical forms of cooperation in such fields as economic development, food production, trade, transport, health, tourism, and training.

A main feature of the discussion was the Lesotho Highland Water Project. The two governments agreed in principle that this project is to the benefit of both countries and will contribute to their economic progress. They expressed the view that the few

outstanding aspects would soon be resolved to mutual satisfaction.

The two leaders discussed the need for appropriate official representation in each country, in order to serve the interests of each other's citizens more effectively and expeditiously and also to manage the envisaged mutual projects. It was agreed that this question will be further considered by the two governments.

On this visit Maj. Gen. Lekhanya was accompanied by a member of the Military Council, Col. Thaabe Letsie; the minister of water, energy, and mining, Col. Lesole Jane; the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Lengolo Monyake; the minister of finance, Mr Retselisitsoe Sekhonyana; and the secretary to the Military Council, Mr Thom Thabane. To meet Maj. Gen. Lekhanya and his entourage at the D.F. Malan Airport, outside Cape Town, this morning was South Africa's foreign minister, Mr R.F. Botha.

NAMIBIA

SWATF Says 13 SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed Recently

*MB251942 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1932 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Windhoek, March 25, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia have shot dead 12 SWAPO insurgents in various skirmishes the last five days, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today.

Another insurgent was shot and killed by a civilian, which brings to 192 the number of insurgents "neutralised" since the beginning of the year.

The SWATF said in a statement that a group of insurgents carried out a stand-off bombardment of a pump station of the department of water affairs at Concor in northern SWA/Namibia on Saturday. The roof of a building, a plant and a road grader were damaged.

After the attack the insurgents fled north and stopped at a village for food, but the village head became suspicious and shot dead one of the insurgents, the SWATF said. In a follow-up operation the next day, another insurgent was killed by the security forces.

The SWATF said that in another incident, two children, Jonas William, 15, and Philippus Ndemiyema, 10, detonated a Soviet-made SK5 rifle grenade by hitting the object with a length of wood.

Jonas sustained serious abdominal wounds and the two children were taken to a military sick bay at Ondangwa where an emergency operation was performed on the seriously injured boy.

SOUTH AFRICA

Malan Denies SADF Involved in Mabopane Maneuvers *MB251500 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1438 GMT* 25 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — No SADF personnel were engaged in manoeuvres in Mabopane in 1986, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today in reply to a question by Mr Peter Soal (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Johannesburg North).

Natal University Withdraws Consent for Conference *MB261252 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT* 26 Mar 86

[Text] This weekend's crucial education conference, scheduled to be held at Natal University, is in jeopardy. Carmel Rickard reports.

[Rickard] The conference is to be attended by about 1,200 delegates from all over South Africa. They will consider government's responses to the ultimatum given several months ago about the conditions under which pupils would attend school this year. It was to be held on Natal University campus in Durban, but the organizers have been called to a meeting by university officials and told permission to hold it on campus had been withdrawn. They were told the university security would not be able to cope with the situation, and the tension on campus following Friday night's devastating fires was running high and could be inflamed by such a meeting. The organizers are now frantically trying to find an alternative venue for the crucial meeting.

Conference To Go Ahead

MB261541 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1512 GMT
26 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 26, SAPA — The National Education Crisis Committees (NECC) conference in Durban at the weekend would go ahead despite Natal University's decision to withdraw its campus as a venue.

The NECC's organising secretary, the Rev Molefe Tsele, said today an alternative venue near the campus would be found for the conference. He said the fires last week on the campus — apparently aimed at preventing or protesting future talks on consolidation between Natal and KwaZulu — were responsible for the university no longer being able to host the conference.

The event has been called to assess government progress in meeting demands made at an education summit organised at the University of the Witwatersrand in December.

The demands, which carried a three month deadline, included:

- The release of detained students and teachers;
- The lifting of the state of emergency;

- The withdrawal of the SADF from the townships; and
- The unbanning of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

About 1400 delegates are expected to attend the conference, of which Mr Tsele said almost 80 per cent were "grassroots members of the communities" they represent. About 100 organisations will also be represented.

The conference will be opened at 6.30pm on Saturday and a keynote address will be delivered by a speaker still to be named. Sunday's session will be closed to the press while the conference goes through resolutions which have already been prepared at regional level, Mr Tsele said. The NECC hopes to announce the venue for the conference tomorrow.

Viljoen on Conference, Demands

MB261211 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1109 GMT
26 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 27, SAPA — Effective and responsible sharing of political power required educated and skilled people with high moral and Christian values, the minister of education and development aid, Dr Gerit Viljoen said today.

In a statement in Cape Town he said no country could be governed by illiterates and his department was doing everything possible to improve education in the interest of every child.

Dr Viljoen said he had taken note of a national education conference scheduled for March 28-30 to be held under the auspices of the National Education Crisis Committee [NECC] to consider black education.

"The government has accepted the responsibility to offer effective education and to work towards equal education in the shortest possible time.

"However, there is a great responsibility on every community to create an atmosphere in which effective education can take place and to ensure that all deliberations on education are based on sound educational principles and not on political emotions."

He said it was clear from slogans such as "freedom now, education later" that there were political groupings who were abusing education for "ulterior political purposes" to the detriment of the child.

The Department of Education and Training had maintained a policy of open communication with education organisations and people.

During meetings with the Soweto parents crisis committee and the NECC several demands had been made which included:

- The abolition of school fees;
- The supply of free books;
- Repair of schools damaged in unrest;
- The postponement of examinations;

— The recognition of "democratic SRC's" [Student Representative Councils]; and

— The abolition of corporal punishment, sexual harassment of female students and the unconditional reinstatement of transferred or dismissed teachers.

Dr Viljoen said the Department of Education and Training had explained in a response to these demands that school fees were not applicable but only voluntary contributions were made by parents. Text books had been provided free to pupils since 1979 and from this year free stationery was also being supplied.

The department was engaged in a programme to repair damaged schools but continuing unrest was hampering progress.

On the postponement of examinations, he said the dates for the examinations had been finalised after consultation with all concerned parties.

The possibility of establishing democratically elected SRC's existed and these were functioning at a number of schools.

Detailed regulations existed for the protection of children. Any malpractices such as excessive corporal punishment or sexual harassment should be reported immediately.

The transfer and dismissal of teachers was done on educational grounds and in the best interests of the pupils.

Dr Viljoen said all educational demands had been addressed but it was disconcerting that many of the facts about demands were being misrepresented to "ferment unrest and disruption at schools".

It was time for parents to take note that their children were being misused and sacrificed for political purposes and that the disruption of education was destroying the future of many pupils and their families.

PFP's Andrew Reacts to Viljoen

*MB261425 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1420 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 26, SAPA — It was unrealistic to expect schools to function normally when the society in which they had to operate was in a state of upheaval, Mr Ken Andrew, PFP [Progressive Federal Party] spokesman on black education, said today.

Reacting to a statement by the Minister of Education and Development Aid Dr Gerrit Viljoen, on the planned national education conference this weekend, Mr Andrew said the minister's words would do little to defuse the crisis in black education.

"When black people of all ages are being shot, detained, tear-gassed, murdered and harassed; when school-leavers are unemployed by the hundreds of thousands; and when the authority of the government has broken down in many areas, it is hard to believe that anyone, including Dr Viljoen, can expect that schools will be able to function in a conventional way."

An overhaul of political and educational systems was needed if the country hoped to develop fully the talents of its children.

Dr Viljoen's statement that South Africa's education system was based on principles accepted worldwide was not true, Mr Andrew said.

"Nowhere else is skin colour the basic determinant of where you go to school."

Dr Viljoen's statement that no country could be governed by illiterates was correct.

"But neither can South Africa be successfully run by a government of political tortoises, dinosaurs and ostriches with their heads in the sand," Mr Andrew said.

"The simple fact is that the government continues to place the demands of its racial ideology before the educational needs of black children. Until that attitude changes, no nationalist has the right to claim that everything is being done to give black children the best possible educational opportunities."

UDF Official Discusses Conference

*MB261237 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2102 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — The fact that there is to be another education conference at the weekend means that the majority of the demands made at the last conference in December had not been met, Mr Ebrahim Rasool, an executive member of the United Democratic Front [UDF], said today.

Addressing students at the University of the Western Cape, Mr Rasool said of the 100 delegates from the western Cape, 53 would be students. The student delegates, he said, would be from eight rural areas, the Western Cape Students Council (WECSCO), tertiary institutions and joint SRC's [Student Representative Council] of schools in the western Cape.

Ten representatives from the Azanian Students Organisation (AZASO) would also be present at the conference on Friday and Saturday, he said. Other delegates will include those from the Western Cape Teachers Union Committee (CAHAC), United Women's Congress, Parents Action Committee (PAC), rural civic associations, Call of Islam, Western Cape Civic Association and parent organisations.

"It is clear from the national report," he added, that school buildings have not been erected or repaired, that the new deal with regard to examinations and promotions is not satisfactory, that troops are still in the townships.

"Furthermore, COSAS [Congress of South African Students] is still banned and SRC's are still banned from operating at schools, and although the state of emergency has been lifted, police still retain much of the power they had under the state of emergency.

"Clearly the majority and the most fundamental of our demands have not been met — and that is why 100 delegates from the

western Cape will be going to the national consultative conference over the weekend," Mr Rasool said.

Talks on Development Held With Swaziland

*MB251519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1513 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — Members of the Governments of Swaziland and South Africa held talks in Cape Town today on projects related to the development of the Komati/Lomati basins.

In a statement issued afterwards, the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Ron Miller, said that the talks had been conducted in a friendly and constructive atmosphere and that the two delegations would report back to their respective governments.

Mr Miller chaired the discussions which included the minister of agricultural economics and water affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel, and the deputy minister of finance, Mr Kent Durr.

The Swazi delegation was headed by Prince Khuzulwandle and included the minister of foreign affairs, Mr M.M.P. Mnisi, and the minister of finance, Mr B.S. Dhlamini.

Cape Town Council Decides Against Opening Beaches

*MB251341 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1255 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — The Cape Town divisional council today decided by one vote not to open its beaches to all races at this stage.

Instead, after a lengthy debate, the council accepted a motion from Mr A.L.J. Powell to refer the matter back to the works committee for further consideration and recommendations on crowd control and to canvass other municipalities for their views. Council will vote again on the issue after these steps have been taken.

Mr Neil Ross, who introduced the motion to open beaches, said 11 civic associations favoured the idea.

"It is an illustration that councillors are behind public opinion instead of leading public opinion," he said.

Pinetown Swimming Pool Opened to All Races

*MB251328 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0838 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Pinetown, March 25, SAPA — The Pinetown Town Council last night decided to open the public swimming-pool in the Lahee Park suburb to all races.

The decision to open the town's whites-only pool to all race groups was a result of a recommendation by the finance and management chairman, Mr Ismail Patel.

Although the pool had been open to all races for special events, galas and diving competitions, it was not permanently multiracial.

The Lahee swimming pool is situated in a white area, but the town's existing by-laws do not have any racial restrictions concerning the pool.

Mr Patel has welcomed the decision. "The decision arrived at is in keeping with that of certain other local authorities which have come to realise that the solution to South Africa's problems lies in urgent reforms which should permeate through all three tiers of government," he said.

Kidds Beach Farmers Oppose Ciskei Resettlement

*MB261204 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0024 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] East London, March 25, SAPA — Farmers in the Kidds Beach area have objected to the creation of a resettlement camp for former residents of Mooiplaas and want the government to take immediate action to prevent the development of further squatter camps in the area.

A spokesman for a firm of attorneys in East London said today an urgent application seeking an interdict preventing further resettlement in the area was being prepared on behalf of the farmers. It would be filed at the Grahamstown Supreme Court.

The Mooiplaas residents were moved this afternoon to Good Hope Farm, south of the Ciskei border in the Kidds Beach area. The farm is owned by the South African Development Trust.

The residents were moved at their own request to escape "harassment and intimidation" by opponents of Ciskei, according to South African officials.

The chairman of the East London Western District Farmers Association, Mr Andy Russell, predicted that the resettlement of large numbers of unemployed people in areas with no jobs or infrastructure could create serious problems for local farmers, some of whom had already suffered stock losses.

Mr Russell said: "What they are doing is creating rural squatter communities, it's an absolute nightmare, an impossible situation." He said theft of large livestock in the area averaged at least 10 head a month. Each animal cost at least R600, amounting to a total loss of R6000 month for members of the association.

"They could have tried to settle these people in the East London district where they will at least find employment," he said. Mr Russell said farmers also reported an increase in pineapple thefts.

The first secretary of the South African Embassy in Ciskei, Mr Kevin Brennan, said 30 families from Tuba village near Mooiplaas were moved. A further 70 people, including seven headmen and their families, were moved yesterday from the Bluewater police station to where they had fled.

Yesterday, the South African ambassador to Ciskei, Lieutenant-General A.J. van Deventer, said the move was the culmination of unrest in the area. He said the group being moved was harassed and intimidated by a "bad element of anti-Ciskeians" and were particularly perturbed by the murder of a headman last week.

Court Overturns Conviction of Cape Town Man

*MB271045 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1029 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 27, SAPA — Ravensmead youth leader Trevor Wentzel, who has served more than a year of a five-year sentence on Robben Island for petrol-bombing, has had his appeal against conviction upheld in the Supreme Court, Cape Town.

Mr Wentzel, 25, was detained in September 1984 in connection with a petrol bomb attack on the house of Ravensmead Labour Party MP Mr Hansie Christians.

Mr Wentzel, chairman of the Ravensmead Youth and Student Organisation, was convicted by a Simons Town Regional Court under the Internal Security Act on January 9 last year. He was found to have participated in a petrol bomb attack on Mr Christian's house on August 21, 1984, the night before the first tri-cameral Parliament elections. Mr Wentzel was refused bail while on trial and after conviction.

Mr Dulla Omar, for Mr Wentzel, said his client had intended to set tyres alight with petrol. A group of youths demanded the petrol be used to make petrol bombs. Mr Wentzel argued with them and warned that such an action would be "political suicide," but to no avail, Mr Omar said. He left the container of petrol at his feet, fearing that too much resistance would brand him a "sell-out." Mr Omar said this could not constitute the "aiding and making" of a petrol bomb.

"The issue is that the appellant tried to dissuade people from making petrol bombs. This is a case where the court should exercise mercy and come to the assistance of someone who tried to stop the bombings. At the least, a large portion of his sentence should have been suspended."

Mr P.J. van der Merwe, for the state, said the fact remained that Mr Wentzel had supplied the petrol. The court upheld Mr Wentzel's appeal and overturned his conviction. Mr Justice Lategan and Mr Justice de Kock presided.

Motlana on Withdrawal From London Conference

*MB251659 London BBC World Service in English
1200 GMT 25 Mar 86*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] What was billed as an academic conference here in Britain, organized by the Wilton Park Institute, has fallen apart. It was designed to bring together all sides in South Africa,

including Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Zulu movement, the banned ANC, and civic and community leaders.

Among those invited was Dr Nthato Motlana, leader of the Soweto Civic Association. He and a number of other delegates arrived in London, but pulled out of the conference at the last minute. Julian Marshall asked Dr Motlana why they had done that.

[Begin recording][Motlana] Because a British newspaper carried a front-page story suggesting that the British Government had organized this conference in order to avoid a bloodbath back home, and that we would come here to negotiate and that of course worried us because we were under the impression that we had been invited here in our individual capacities to discuss the crisis back home, not to negotiate on anybody's behalf. Negotiation implies attendance by people who have a mandate from their different organizations and I had a position to take immediately. We started asking questions. The first question we asked was: Who had sponsored this conference? Who were the people who were invited? And so on and so forth.

[Marshall] I understand that this morning you had the chance to see Minister of State in the Foreign Office Lynda Chalker. Did she answer any of these questions satisfactorily to you?

[Motlana] No, she did not. But I have been in touch with the conference organizers, who assured me that somebody must have leaked a story in order to wreck the conference because although the Wilton Park center is part of the Commonwealth and Foreign Office, it is an independent organization, and this is what we'd gathered when we left home, that this was an independent academic institution which was sponsoring. We probably would have come, even if we knew that the British Government was behind the organization, but no, we felt that there had not been sufficient disclosure about who was involved, who would be invited and so on and so on.

[Marshall] Do you regret now, in retrospect, having stayed away from the conference? Do you think that you were perhaps precipitous to pull out?

[Motlana] No, I don't think so. I would have found it difficult to participate in this conference if Inkatha was to attend and if the ANC was excluded. I know now that in fact the ANC was invited, did accept although there seems to be some dispute about whether in fact they accepted to come. I would have attended even if the South African Government had attended, particularly if they attended in the presence of the ANC, because I think the idea that South Africa, the South African Government at least, will not attend a conference to which the ANC is invited is all damn nonsense. I had hoped that we would have representatives of both organizations.

[Marshall] Why is Inkatha so unacceptable to groups such as your own?

[Motlana] Because Inkatha is seen as part of the problem. The president of Inkatha, a charismatic leader respected in some quarters, is also chief minister of a bantustan called KwaZulu.

We find it difficult to accept that people who have allowed themselves to be part of this can be part of the liberation struggle.

Unbanned Manuel Calls for Unbanning of ANC

*MB261237 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1045 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Excerpt] Cape Town, March 26, SAPA — Mr Trevor Manuel, Western Cape secretary of the United Democratic Front, has called on the government to unban the African National Congress.

In his first interview since Mr Louis le Grange, the minister of law and order, lifted the banning orders on him and Mr Jacobo Isel yesterday, Mr Manuel vowed to become more deeply involved in the fight to end apartheid and called for the release of all political prisoners and for all political exiles to be allowed to return unconditionally.

"Of course I am happy that the order has been lifted. Now I will become deeper involved in the fight to end apartheid. We challenged the state and won."

ANC Condemns U.S. Actions Against Libya, Angola

MB261756 Dakar PANA in English 1541 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Lusaka, 26 March (PANA) — The African National Congress (ANC) joins all just, democratic forces of the world in condemning a series of acts of provocation that have for sometime now been carried out by the Reagan administration against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

A press release from the ANC International Department issued to PANA today in Lusaka said it is against the U.S. provocations that led to clashes between the air and naval forces of the two countries on Tuesday in the Gulf of Sidra, Mediterranean Coast. This is not only an act of aggression against Libya, but also a serious threat to peace, the release said.

The release said these acts of provocation by the U.S. against Libya are clearly part of its policy of state terrorism against countries that refuse to bow to its imperialist diktat, in defence of their sovereignty and national independence.

In pursuance of this policy, the Reagan administration is currently waging an undeclared war against the Republic of Nicaragua by training and arming counter-revolutionary bands in this Central American country, whose aim is to overthrow its legitimate governments, the release added.

The release said in this campaign of global confrontation with the world progressive forces, the Reagan administration sponsored and aligned itself with the most reactionary forces of fascism, including the apartheid regime in South Africa. A clear demonstration of this, the release said, is the U.S. decision to give increased military assistance to the UNITA bandit gangs in Angola, led by Jonas Savimbi, whom they have just given a red carpet treatment. As is well-known, the Savimbi gang is the

South Africa regime's chief instrument of destabilisation against Angola, the release said.

PFP To Discuss 'Increasingly Ugly, Violent Unrest

*MB261655 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1644 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 26, SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party's [PFP] parliamentary caucus will discuss reports of an "increasingly ugly and violent unrest situation," the party's leader, Mr Colin Eglin, said this morning.

He said in a statement before the meeting that PFP MP's would give "special attention" to the reports and that prior to the meeting peninsula MP's, MPC's [member of provincial councils] and city councillors would also meet to report on "the deteriorating situation on the peninsula."

Mr Eglin said he was deeply concerned at the "gravity of the situation," which went far beyond sporadic unrest and violence.

"By failing to deal in a bold and imaginative way with the fundamental problems that are tearing our society apart, the government is putting the future of this country at risk," he said.

"If Mr Botha and his cabinet continue to fiddle and dither while leaving it to Minister Louis le Grange's men to deal with the situation through strong-arm police tactics, South Africa will soon find itself in a Lebanese situation, both as far as the level of violence and the collapse of normal civil administration is concerned.

"It is time the government pulled itself together and realised that the situation cannot be resolved either by repression or coercion." It could only be resolved through urgent and fundamental structural change away from apartheid towards a new non-racial and democratic South Africa, Mr Eglin said.

SAAWU, AZAPO Activists Detained in Mooiplaas

*MB261650 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1643 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] King Williams Town, Mar 26, SAPA — The East London branch organiser of the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU), Mr Sicelo Ndevu, was last weekend detained by the security police.

Mr Ndevu was alleged to have been detained in a meeting in Mooiplaas on Saturday. Mr Ndevu's detention was confirmed by the police liaison officer in the border area, Lieutenant Dot van der Vyver today.

Lt van der Vyver said the SAAWU activist was detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act. The SAAWU branch secretary, Mr Boyce Melitafa, in a statement today said his union calls upon the police to release Mr Ndevu and those who were arrested with him while attending the launch of the Mooiplaas Resident Association. Mr Melitafa said the meeting was peaceful

and legal since the people of Mooiplaas obtained a permit to hold that meeting.

"SAAWU in the meantime is looking at some possibilities of taking some further steps if Mr Ndevu and others are not released with immediate effect. SAAWU also announces that while Mr Ndevu is being held it has made good progress on duties supposed to have been carried out by him. In that it has won May Day (International Labour Day) as a paid day and unconditional public holiday when an agreement was entered into between the chloride factory and SAAWU in East London," Mr Melitafa added.

Also detained in King Williams Town is the Ginsberg leadership of the Azanian Peoples Organisation (AZAPO).

They are Mr Nazimbu Hlanganizo, Mr Lunga Lefume, Mr Sekelezi Duma, Mr Ndoda Keyisi, Mr Mzwabantu Lumkwana, Mr Vusumuzi Ntente and Mr Mcedisi Ngoliyi.

Detained with them is the president of the Ginsberg Youth Organisation, Mr Dickson Matika. The eight are also being held under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act.

Six AZAPO Members Released

*MB261327 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1317 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Johannesburg, March 26, SAPA — Six of eleven [as received] Azanian People's Organisation [AZAPO] members detained this week have been released, an AZAPO spokesman said in Johannesburg today.

Mr George Wauchope and Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe — who were released in Tzaneen yesterday — had been so severely assaulted they "cannot sleep or even sit down," the spokesman told SAPA.

He said Mr Wauchope and Mr Nefolovhodwe were detained by Lebowa police on Sunday at Namakgale after addressing a "Heroes Day" — March 21 — meeting.

The four AZAPO activists released this morning from Pietersburg are: Mr Phosakuwa Mashele, Mr Jake Mathabathe, Mr Mmutle Pashe and Mr Oupa Maleka.

Police in Pretoria confirmed five AZAPO activists were being detained under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act. They are Lunga Lefume, Mcedisi Ngoloyi, Thomas Duma, Vusumuzi Ntente and Nazimbu Hlanganizo.

'Good Response' to Zulu Recruiting Drive Expected

*MB251344 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1114 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Durban, March 25, SAPA — The army is expecting a good response to a recruiting drive it has launched for Zulus to join 121 Battalion based at Mtubatuba. The unit, which numbers between 500 and 600 at present, wants up to 300 recruits.

The battalion has served on the SWA/Namibia border on numerous occasions and acquitted itself well, said Col Louis Lamprecht, liaison officer at Natal command in Durban.

Announcing the recruiting drive yesterday, the colonel said: "We are expecting a flood of applications. News of our drive has already spread by word of mouth." He said among reasons for expecting an enthusiastic response was that the Zulu had always been a proud warrior. Widespread unemployment was another factor.

In 1981 the unit moved from Jozini military base to Mtubatuba where it is stationed in the Dukuduku forest.

Col Lamprecht said there were no black officers in the battalion at this stage, but suitably qualified recruits could do an officers course.

Nuclear Research Facility To Be Established

*MB251521 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1500 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — A proposed nuclear research facility to be established at the Gouritz River mouth between Mossel Bay and Port Elizabeth would be open to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] if IAEA guarantees were required, the minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, said today.

Answering a question by Mr Roger Hulley (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Constantia), Mr Steyn said no final decision had been taken on what sort of facility would be erected. Financial circumstances had delayed the project and at present only the infrastructure was being provided.

If the activities to be conducted at the facility were of such a nature that it required IAEA guarantees, the centre would be open to inspection by the agency.

Mr Steyn said an environmental impact assessment of the project had been carried out and studies were continuing in cooperation with consultants and universities. The results would be made available to the public when the studies were completed.

MEDUNSA To Observe Normal Term Opening, Closing

*MB251346 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1253 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 25, SAPA — The Medical University of Southern Africa (MEDUNSA) — troubled by a mass stayaway of black students — will remain open for normal activities until the end of term on Thursday and will reopen in the normal way on April 7.

This was one of the decisions taken by the university's council at a special meeting today, following a boycott of classes by black students after a supreme court ruling last week that two white undergraduate students whose registrations were cancelled last month, be reinstated at the university.

In a statement today the council listed the decisions it had taken. They are:

— The council reiterates its policy that it is a university which is open to all irrespective of race, colour or creed, who are eager and able to study at MEDUNSA,

— It recognises that the university was primarily created to provide educational opportunities for sections of the population which had not been adequately provided for in the past, and that suitable applicants from those communities should receive priority in the admission procedure,

— However, applicants from other sections of the community will be considered, provided they have a good claim for admission to this university and their acceptance does not involve excluding suitable applicants from the communities for whom the university was primarily created,

— The university remains open for normal activities until the end of term on March 27 and will reopen in the normal way on April 7. It will be expected of all students who wish to proceed with their studies, and who wish to conform with training requirements in order to obtain their degrees, to attend classes in the normal way and fully apply themselves to their studies, as is required of students at any university.

It was council's wish and intention that everything possible be done to normalise the situation at MEDUNSA, it said.

Moderate Students Alliance on Wits Violence

*MB251330 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0843 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Johannesburg, March 25, SAPA — The violence at the University of Witwatersrand last week was a natural result of the university administrations policy of tolerating violence, intimidation and disorderly behaviour, the Students Moderate Alliance (SMA) said in a statement today.

Reacting to the violence on the campus the SMA said: "Unless decisive and immediate action is taken by the university to stamp out campus hooliganism, no student will be safe from the anger of the radical students."

The university had banned a meeting planned by the SMA for today and "by so doing has admitted that it has lost control of the situation on campus."

It also showed that university was no longer able to protect the rights of students or the safety of guests from mob actions.

The SMA had always been supportive of the principle of free speech on campus, the statement added.

"We call on the university administration to restore academic freedom and to take the necessary steps to protect students' rights on campus," it said.

The organisation would hold a meeting at the university today with "a display aimed at exposing the violence and intimidation of black and white students over the last week," the statement added.

20,446 Black Students Attend White Universities

*MB251831 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1825 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — Last year 20,446 black students were enrolled at universities for whites, the minister of education and culture, Mr Piet Clase, said today in reply to a question from Mr Horace van Rensburg (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Bryanston).

Unrest Damages Total 138 Million Rands

*MB261200 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 26 Mar 86*

[Text] Unrest damage in South Africa has been estimated at 138 million rands for the period September 1984 until the present. This was revealed in a special paper released by the Institute of Strategic Studies at the University of Pretoria. The paper said insurance claims in the same period have also soared and amounted to 65 million by February 1986. Reflecting on ANC terror activity during 1985, the paper notes that about one-third of the incidents were directed at what he described as economic targets, such as business premises and electrical substations.

22 Serving Life Sentences for Security Offences

*MB251339 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1321 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] House of Assembly, Mar 25, SAPA — Twenty-two people were serving life sentences for offences against the security of the state as of March 12 this year, the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said today in reply to a question by Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP [Progressive Federal Party] Houghton).

Bophuthatswana Death Toll Rises to 11

*MB270640 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0628 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — The death toll in the bloody confrontation between the Bophuthatswana police and a large crowd holding a protest meeting in Winterveld yesterday is 11.

More than 22 people suffered gunshot wounds at "City Rocks" football ground in the giant squatter area when the police opened fire after "ordering the crowd to disperse." Some of the injured were said to be in a coma at Ga-Rankuwa hospital, raising fears that the death toll would go up again.

Colonel M.A. Molope, the district commandant of the Bophuthatswana Police in the Odi region, confirmed that about 10 people were killed and one died later in hospital, after police opened fire on the crowd "which pelted us with stones and petrol bombs after we told them to disperse."

Some 200 people surrounded by the police at the ground were waiting to be taken to the police station and the hospital when a

local news team arrived at the scene of the clash. An ambulance and police vehicles took turns ferrying the people.

Pools of blood at the ground bore mute testimony to the violent confrontation which had taken place earlier. Discarded piles of shoes and clothing littered the football field where the Winterveld residents had started gathering at about 9am yesterday.

Police displayed rocks, stones and petrol bombs which they said were confiscated from some of the people.

Residents say the meeting was called to protest against their possible eviction if they refused to join vigilante groups. They said the formation of the vigilantes was in response to a call by Bophuthatswana President Dr Lucas Mangope on the people to organise themselves against the troublemakers among the youth.

However, police said the meeting was held to demand the release of political prisoners and showed members of the press at the scene banners to support this.

Shortly after the killings, the police were seen flogging four youths near the main road. Others carrying rifles, truncheons and sjamboks maintained vigilance in the area.

Two trucks were stoned and set alight in the earlier confrontation. Police said several schools were also stoned and burnt. Some workers stayed away from work while others were prevented from moving out of the township to attend the meeting.

Conflicting Stories on Shootings

*MB261741 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1739 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Mmabatho, March 26, SAPA — At least ten people were shot dead when Bophuthatswana police opened fire on a crowd of between five and ten thousand people on a soccer field in Winterveld near Pretoria today, according to a spokesman for the Bophuthatswana police. At least 70 people were injured in the shootings and treated in local clinics and hospitals, according to a resident interviewed by SAPA's correspondent in Mmabatho.

Col David George, spokesman for the Bophuthatswana police, said a large crowd gathered at the Winterveld football ground this morning waiting "to be addressed by a speaker who never arrived."

Police ordered the crowd to disperse as the meeting was illegal, he said. The crowd then began to throw stones at the police and members of the defence force. Security forces then opened fire to defend themselves.

A spokesman for the Winterveld Action Committee gave a different account of the meeting. He said the district police commander, Col M.A. Molope, addressed the meeting today after residents had asked for talks with him to discuss their grievances.

"Since Friday the police have been driving around the area and taking youths from their houses," the spokesman said. "Parents stayed away from work today so that they could go to the meeting and find out why their children were arrested."

Another resident said Col Molope told the crowd during his address that those arrested would be released by 4pm today. However, before the meeting ended an apparent incident of stone throwing sparked off the shootings. After the meeting dispersed, security forces chased residents into their houses and detained many youngsters, he added.

Residents counted twenty two bodies after the meeting dispersed, he said.

Attempts to contact a police spokesman for comment on the residents' account of the meeting are continuing.

Winterveld is a large squatter settlement with a population of about 1 million people 100km north of Pretoria.

Mangope Orders Inquiry

*MB271015 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope has ordered an inquiry into the shootings at Winterveld. State Affairs Minister Rowan Cronje says Justice E.A.T. Smith has been appointed as a 1-man commission and will look into the incident as a matter of urgency.

Meanwhile, a Bophuthatswana police spokesman has confirmed 11 people were killed and 2,500 arrested in the shootings yesterday. The number of injured is still being ascertained. The spokesman says the situation in Winterveld this morning is quiet but tense after sporadic stone throwing last night.

Two French Doctors Whipped

*MB271150 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1122 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Two French doctors were arrested, sjambokked and severely beaten by Bophuthatswana policemen in Winterveld yesterday, the two claimed today.

The doctors, a man and a woman, had rushed to the scene at the sound of gunshots, they told reporters. Dr Vincent Faucherre and his colleague, a 29-year-old woman who does not wish to be named, were detained for almost 12 hours before being released at 11pm.

The woman alleges that when she ran to help Dr Faucherre, who was being sjambokked by several policemen, she was punched in the jaw and whipped on the chest and back. Both doctors have raw weals on their bodies from the beatings.

They alleged they were called communists and terrorists by the policemen. Both doctors, members of the Medecin du Monde, an

organisation which sends doctors to needy areas around the world, were working in a Winterveld Clinic at the time of the shootings.

Dr Faucherre said today they had rushed to the scene and saw policemen beating women trying to get away from them.

"I thought the sight of a white doctor would make the people stop what they were doing, but it didn't help," he said. Instead they grabbed Dr Faucherre, held him and sjambokked him repeatedly. The French Embassy would not comment on the situation this morning.

Crossroads Vigilante: Police Involved in Attack

*MB241833 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1744 GMT
25 Mar 86*

[Text] Cape Town, March 25, SAPA — One of the "witdoek" [white cloth] vigilantes who took part in Thursday night's abortive attack on New Crossroads and Nyanga which left seven vigilantes dead, has made startling allegations of police involvement in the battle.

Mr Nkosana Mdini, who is "over 60 years old", was taken prisoner by New Crossroads residents at the height of the fighting and has since been held at a "safe house" in a township.

Mr Mdini also alleged Old Crossroads leader, Mr Johnson Nxobongwana, and his chief lieutenant, Mr Sam Mdima, organised the raid.

"After work on Thursday, Mdima went around with a loud-speaker and called on all men of my age and younger to bring their weapons and go to Mr Nxobongwana's office. He said that anybody who did not go would be killed or burnt in his shanty," he alleged. "Some of the men had guns."

At Mr Nxobongwana's office, the men — Mr Mdini said there were about 300 "witdoeke" (white cloths) — were told to wear white strips of cloth around their heads "so we could know each other," and were ordered to go with the three New Crossroads committee members to "fetch their belongings."

The group were transported and walked to the Lansdowne Road entrance to Nyanga and New Crossroads, where, he said, they met two police armoured vehicles.

"The one police vehicle moved with a truck filled with men and with the three men from New Crossroads, and the other vehicle moved slowly about 20 yards in front of those of us who were walking," he alleged. Soon after, shooting broke out "which seemed to be aimed at us" and the police vehicle disappeared. He ran for cover and was then taken prisoner.

He also alleged previous fighting between so-called "fathers" and "comrades" had been organised at the instigation of Mr Nxobongwana.

"People have been commanded on several occasions to go and attack."

Mr Mdini was not prepared to make a statement to the police as he was "scared". He would not return to Crossroads because he was "scared of being killed," and "the community of New Crossroads will look after me." He said he had been well-treated since his capture and "I was not beaten, there was no bad treatment."

A police liaison officer for the Western Cape, Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, said today "if Mr Mdini is prepared to supply us with the facts, we can investigate these allegations."

"If, however, vague allegations are made and the police are not given the opportunity to test these allegations, it places the South African Police at a great disadvantage."

In a joint statement, the Cape Youth Congress, the United Womens Congress and the Western Cape Civic Association said they held no ill-feelings towards the "witdoeke."

Members of the United Democratic Front-Affiliated organisations have been the main targets of attacks by supporters of conservative committee members and community councillors.

"Mr Nxobongwana, through his actions, has brought grief to the families of these seven men who died away from their homes; he is using their ignorance for his own political purposes and we strongly regret any injuries or deaths which may have been suffered."

"We have to defend our lives and our property against these attacks, and nobody can be held responsible for the seven deaths — it was a war of resistance waged by the whole community, fathers, mothers and the youth."

Three Killed in Durban Townships 26 Mar

*MB270722 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0702 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Durban, March 27, SAPA — Two men, one a Natal newspaper company driver, died when they were attacked and burned, and a child was stabbed to death as violent unrest continued in the black townships of Durban yesterday.

At Chesterville, Mr Matthew Makanya, 28, who worked for Allied Publishing, now part of the Natal Newspapers Company, was attacked after he had apparently taken part in a vigilante exercise.

He and members of a group known as the A-Team had allegedly been trying to round up a group of high school pupils aged between 16 and 20 allegedly responsible for unrest in the area. The schoolchildren later allegedly pulled Mr Makanya from a bus and he was stabbed to death with pangas and broken bottles.

His body was then allegedly taken to a road near the Chesterville High School where a tyre was placed around it, doused with petrol and set alight.

At Ntuzuma, near KwaMashu, another man was found burned to death and a child was stabbed to death.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports**Late 26 Mar**

*MB261714 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1712 GMT
26 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 26, SAPA — The following is the 7pm unrest situation report from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"One of the men seriously injured in an attack on a liquor store on KwaZakele, (eastern province) this morning has died in hospital.

"In another incident a group of blacks threw petrol bombs at policemen's homes. Tearsmoke and shotguns were used to disperse the mob.

"Shotguns were also used to disperse a group of intimidators who were attempting to intimidate a member of the SAP (South African Police).

"At Tembisa on the east Rand, arsonists set fire to a delivery vehicle.

"At Ntuzuma in Natal, arsonists set fire to a private home.

"A child was found stabbed to death and another seriously injured.

"A black man was burned to death with a tyre around his neck.

"One black man was seriously injured at Mooiplaas, eastern Province, when his house was set alight by arsonists.

"In Soweto, Johannesburg, a black man was slightly wounded and arrested by the police after an attack and attempted looting of a delivery vehicle.

"A black man was slightly injured after arsonists had set a bakery alight.

"In another incident, members of the South African Defence Force fired tearsmoke to disperse a mob after a stonethrowing attack on their vehicle."

"At Motherwell, eastern province, a delivery vehicle was set alight.

"At Old Crossroads, western province, stonethrowing attackers on police vehicles were dispersed with tearsmoke.

"A member of the SAP was slightly injured during a stonethrowing attack on a SAP vehicle. The mob was dispersed with shotgun fire."

Ends report.

Early 27 Mar

*MB270617 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0612 GMT
27 Mar 86*

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Following is SAP situation report on overnight unrest.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At KwaZakele near PE, [Port Elizabeth] petrol-bombs were hurled at SAP vehicles on a number of occasions and at one stage at a policeman's private vehicle.

"Tear smoke and shotgun fire were used to disperse the mobs during some of these incidents. One black man was wounded and arrested and another arrested. Two policeman's homes were petrol-bombed. One of the members used revolver and shotgun fire to defend his home. No injuries were reported.

"At New Brighton, a councillor was slightly injured when his vehicle was stoned. The post office was slightly damaged when it was petrol-bombed.

"At Old Crossroads in the WP [western province], the SAP used shotgun fire when a private vehicle was petrol-bombed. Two men were fatally wounded and another two wounded. A coloured man was injured by the mob.

"At Kayalitsha a private vehicle was extensively damaged by fire. At Chesterville in Port Natal a private vehicle was set on fire. The SAP used shotgun fire and tear smoke to disperse the mob. A private home was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Loza in the eastern province, the SAP fired birdshot when a private home was stoned. No injuries were reported. In the same area, two private vehicles and a delivery vehicle were stoned.

"At Tembisa on the east Rand a private home was damaged by a petrol-bomb."

Ends report.

Commentary Criticizes Witwatersrand U. Incident

*MB270605 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Mar 86*

[Station commentary]

[Text] For an educational institution which has always prided itself on being a standard bearer of the liberal tradition, the University of the Witwatersrand has a campus with a remarkably consistent history of intolerance towards those who disagree with the prevailing leftist views.

The practice of raucously shouting down visiting speakers became popular in the early seventies. In the last few years, however, its undertones of intimidation and even violence have grown in intensity — to be openly manifested when a UNITA delegation visited the campus at the invitation of a student movement last week. Not only were the UNITA members pre-

vented from speaking, so threatening was the behaviour that they were asked to leave the campus for their own safety.

By implication, the university authorities found themselves unable or unwilling to guarantee the safety even of invited guests on the campus, an impression strengthened by the refusal of a request to extend another invitation on the grounds that feelings were running high in the present political climate.

So far there has been no attempt to take disciplinary steps against the culprits in the UNITA affair.

A statement by the administration, emphasising its commitment to freedom of speech and deploring the treatment of the visitors, belies its own actions. The simple fact is that it is permitting a situation to continue where that freedom is not maintained on the campus.

Freedom of speech — the freedom to state views that may be altogether at variance with those of others — is fundamental to the concept of a university. Without that freedom its role in serving as a forum for the increase of knowledge and insight through unfettered exchanges of information and views becomes a farce. Without such freedom it is not fulfilling its task of

training students to examine all views and make their own judgments as objectively as possible.

The authorities at the University of the Witwatersrand might well ask themselves how seriously they do in fact take this criterion. It is not a question of how strongly some of the students might feel about UNITA or about anything else.

The fundamental value that defines an institution as being a university — freedom of speech — is denied when the opposite side may not be heard.

The University of the Witwatersrand, like all other such institutions in the country, receives enormous state subsidies to produce the leaders and highly qualified people who will direct this country's affairs in years to come. If they are to do so with wisdom, compassion, and foresight, they cannot be denied the opportunity as students to explore every sphere of knowledge and examine every point of view.

When a university surrenders its students to the intellectual straitjacket created by the intimidatory tactics of the intolerant, it is failing in its most essential purpose.